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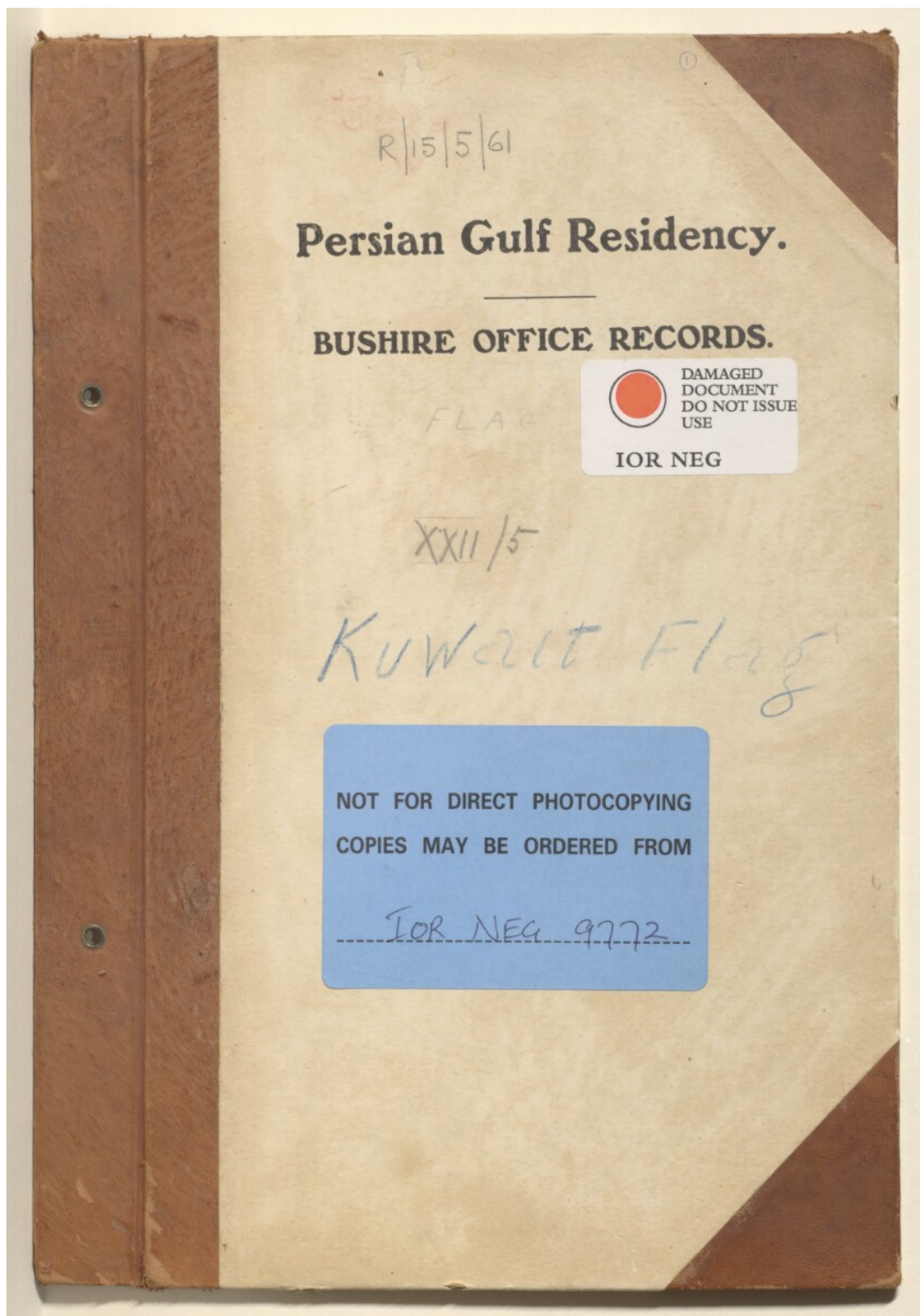
http://www.qdl.qa/en/archive/81055/vdc_100000000831.0x000008

Reference	IOR/R/15/5/61
Title	'File XXII/5 Distinctive Flag for Kuwait'
Date(s)	7 Mar 1906-24 Nov 1924 (CE, Gregorian)
Written in	English in Latin
Extent and Format	1 volume (57 folios)
Holding Institution	British Library: India Office Records and Private Papers
Copyright for document	Open Government Licence

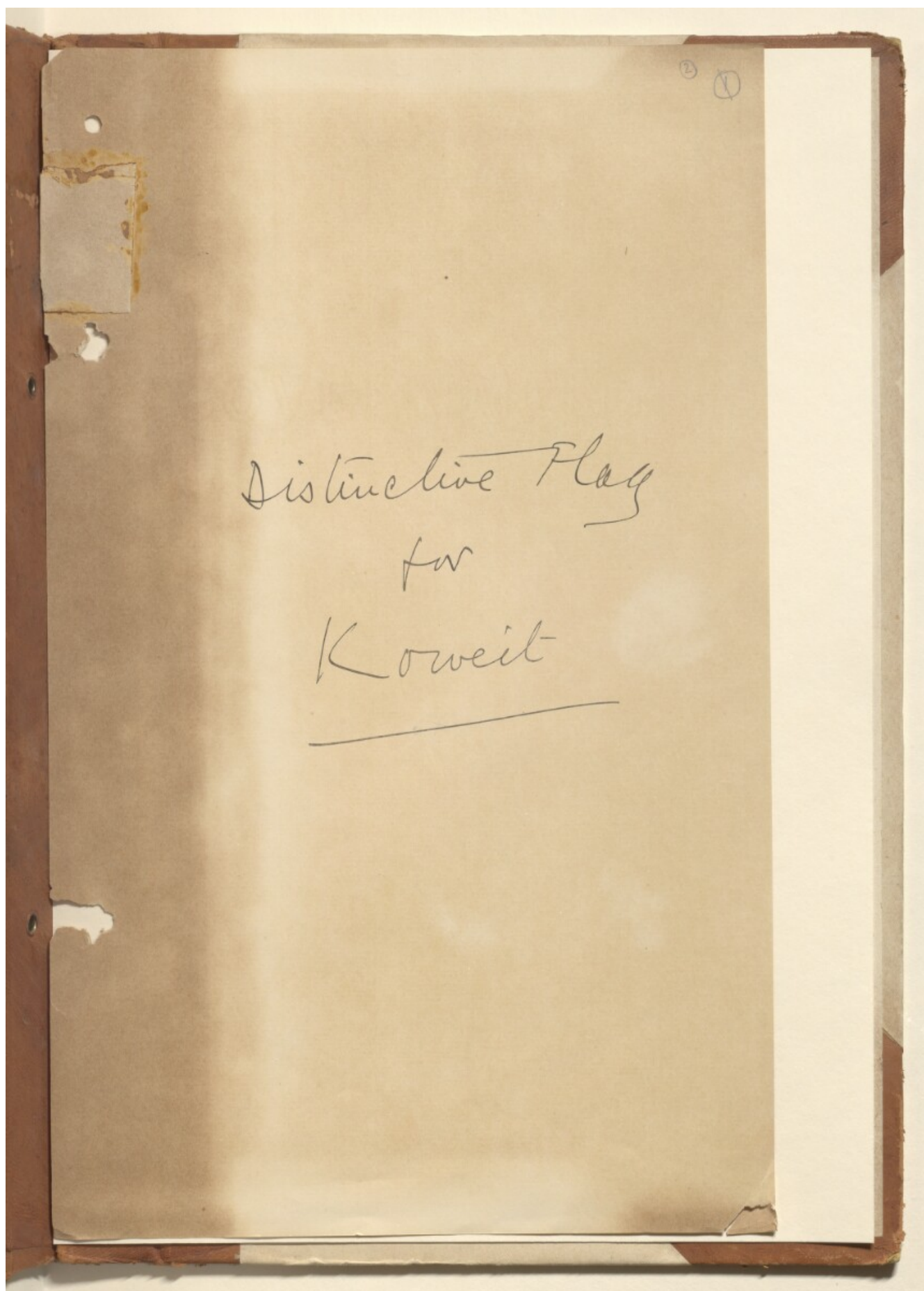
About this record

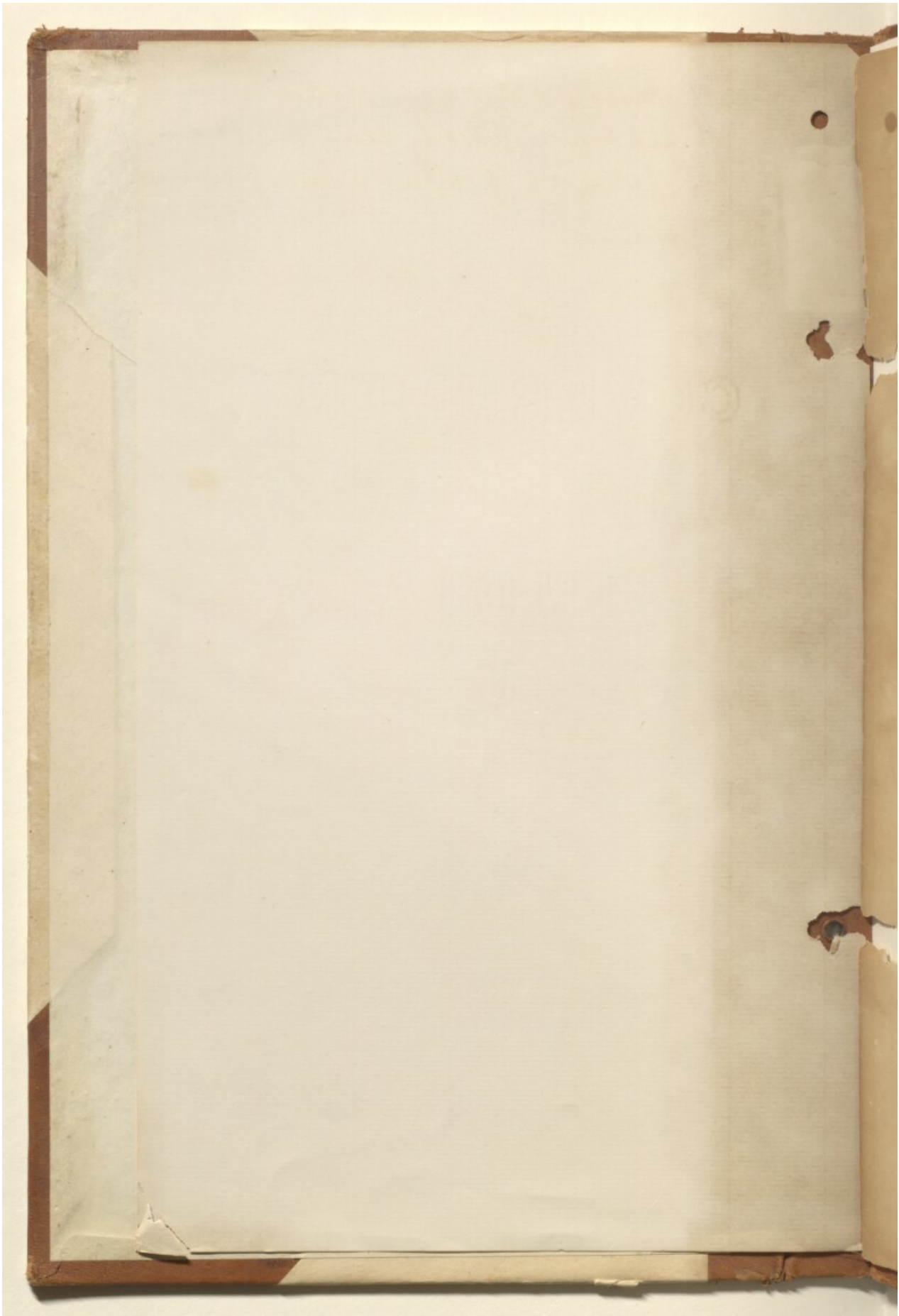
The volume comprises hand written letters, notes, typed correspondence and printed reports relating to the proposed adoption of a distinctive Kuwait flag and certificates of nationality for marine craft belonging to Shaikh Mubarak [Shaikh Mubārak bin Ṣabāḥ Āl Ṣabāḥ] or his subjects. Further discussion surrounds the inscription of 'Koweit' in Roman script as well as Arabic script and the concerns of Shaikh Mubarak over this in the context of strained relations between Persia and Turkey. Shaikh Mubarak requested that Britain guarantee him protection against the Ottomans. The result was the continued use of the Turkish flag with Kuwait inscribed in Arabic letters, to illustrate the Shaikh's 'quasi-independence'. Correspondence discusses the concern of the Ruler of Kuwait over the ability of the British to protect him from the Ottoman Government and the special agreement between the British Government and the Shaikh of Koweit [Kuwait] which imposed certain restrictions on the Shaikh whilst implying a British guarantee of protection of Kuwait's territorial integrity. The correspondence discusses the relative merits of adopting the British flag and the inscription of the Muslim declaration of faith on the flag flown by the Shaikh in front of his palace. Correspondence in 1924 discusses the procedure of flying the flag of Kuwait on HM Ships when receiving a visit from the Shaikh of Kuwait.

The principal correspondents in the volume include: the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf, Percy Zachariah Cox; the Secretary to the Government of India in the Foreign Department, Sir Louis Dane; the Political Agent at Kuwait, Stuart George Knox, and later James Carmichael More; the Second Assistant to the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf, Viceroy; the Secretary of State for India, John Morley; the HM Ambassador to Constantinople, Nicholas O'Connor; the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Edward Grey; the Naval Commander in Chief, East Indies Station.











He thought this was because the telegram had been inspired by Jasim bin Thani, of whom he spoke in no very favorable terms.

7th March 1906

3. Nasir bin Mubarak bin Khalifa, the outlaw relative of Shaikh Isa of Bahrain.

His visit to Kuwait.

Shaikh Mubarak next mentioned that Nasir bin Mubarak of the al Khalifa family had just been paying him one of his periodical visits & had only left a couple of days before.

He continued that Nasir had told him of his meeting with Captain Prideaux, and had gone on to ask him to put in a good word for him to the Resident, with a view to a reconciliation being effected between himself and Shaikh Isa.

Shaikh Mubarak agreed with the Resident in thinking that Shaikh Isa would resent any overtures on behalf of Nasir Mubarak and that it would be difficult to alter the latter's circumstances during Shaikh Isa's lifetime.



4. Koweit flag.

✓ The Resident next introduced the topic of the flag & ship's articles to be carried by Koweit vessels.

It may be mentioned here that the Resident had brought with him a specimen flag — being the pattern previously selected by Sheikh Mubarak with the addition of the word Koweit in Roman letters as well as in Arabic.

The articles were read over to the Sheikh & it was explained that it was proposed that the English translation should be verified by the signature of the Political Agent & ^{this} which the Sheikh considered would be an advantage.

Sheikh Mubarak approved of the articles with the exception of the ^{item} ~~entry~~ under "name of nakhoda". To this he objected, as the nakhodas were always changing.

The Sheikh ^{then} ~~also~~ inspected the flag & ^{after doing so} said that he would lay



before the Resident what appeared ^{(4) (3)}
to him the objections to ^{of the flag} the use
now shown him, & that then, if the
Resident did not consider the
objections of any weight, he would
be prepared to order his subjects
to adopt the new pattern.

The Sheikh then explained his
objections at some length. He related
his grievances against the Turks
& their oppressions in the matter of
his Tao date gardens & their
ingratitude for all he had done
on their behalf. He clearly showed
that he considered that all the
trouble he experienced at their
hands was due to his friendly
attitude towards the British
Government. He laid some stress
on the fact that, on an occasion
when the Bussorah Commandant
came to call on H. B. N.'s consul
at Bussorah & one of the Sheikh's
servants happened to be in the room,
the Consul, instead of openly



acknowledging Sheikh Mubarak's position & recommending his servant to the good offices of high Turkish official, told the servant to scuttle away & hide himself.

He said, in conclusion, that he would accept the flag as it stood, if we would give him a written guarantee to protect him against any consequences that might arise to him from its use.

It proved, on further enquiry, that it was the addition of the English characters to which he objected. The reason for this addition was thoroughly explained to him but the explanation did not remove his objections & he was therefore told that the European lettering was only a useful addition & not an essential & he then expressed himself as quite ready to adopt the flag without the English letters & embodied with the articles for use by his subjects. D 7th March 1906



Confidential

No: 631 of 1906.

③ ④
5

British Residency and Consulate-General,

Bushire, 18 March 1906.

Copy forwarded to the Political Agent, Koweit, for
information.

By Order,

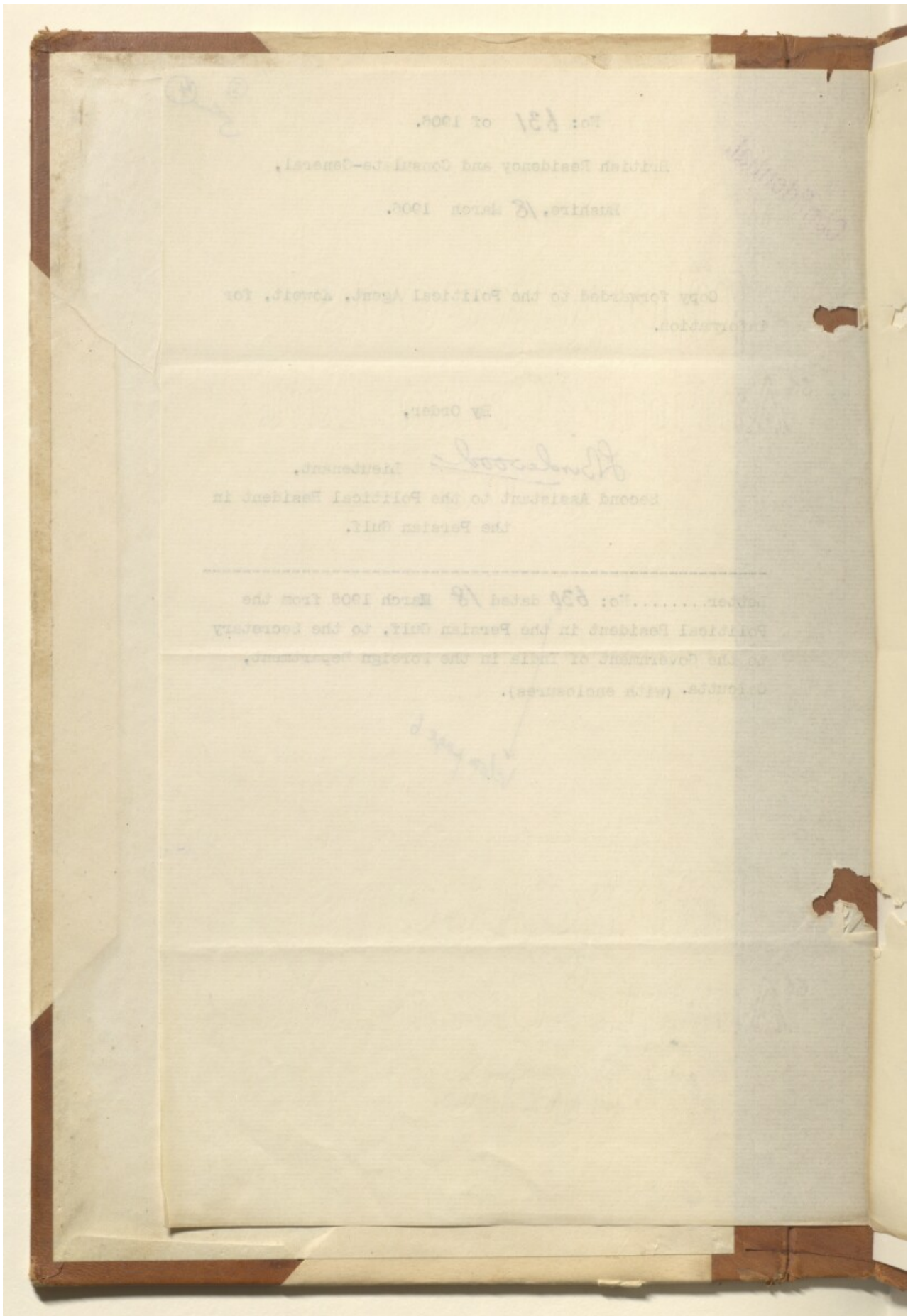
L Birdwood

Lieutenant,

Second Assistant to the Political Resident in
the Persian Gulf.

Letter.....No: 630 dated 18 March 1906 from the
Political Resident in the Persian Gulf, to the Secretary
to the Government of India in the Foreign Department,
Calcutta. (with enclosures).

below page 6





No: 630 of 1906.

British Residency and Consulate-General,

Bushire, 18 March 1906.

From,

Major P. E. Cox, C.I.E.,
Political Resident in the
Persian Gulf.

To,

Sir Louis Dane, K.C.I.E., C.S.I.,
Secretary to the Government of India
in the Foreign Department,
CALCUTTA.

Sir,

I have the honour to refer to the correspondence ending with Foreign Department Letter No: 4576-W.E. dated 11th December 1905, on the subject of a distinctive flag accompanied by printed Certificates of Nationality, to be used by vessels belonging to Sheikh Mobarek or his subjects

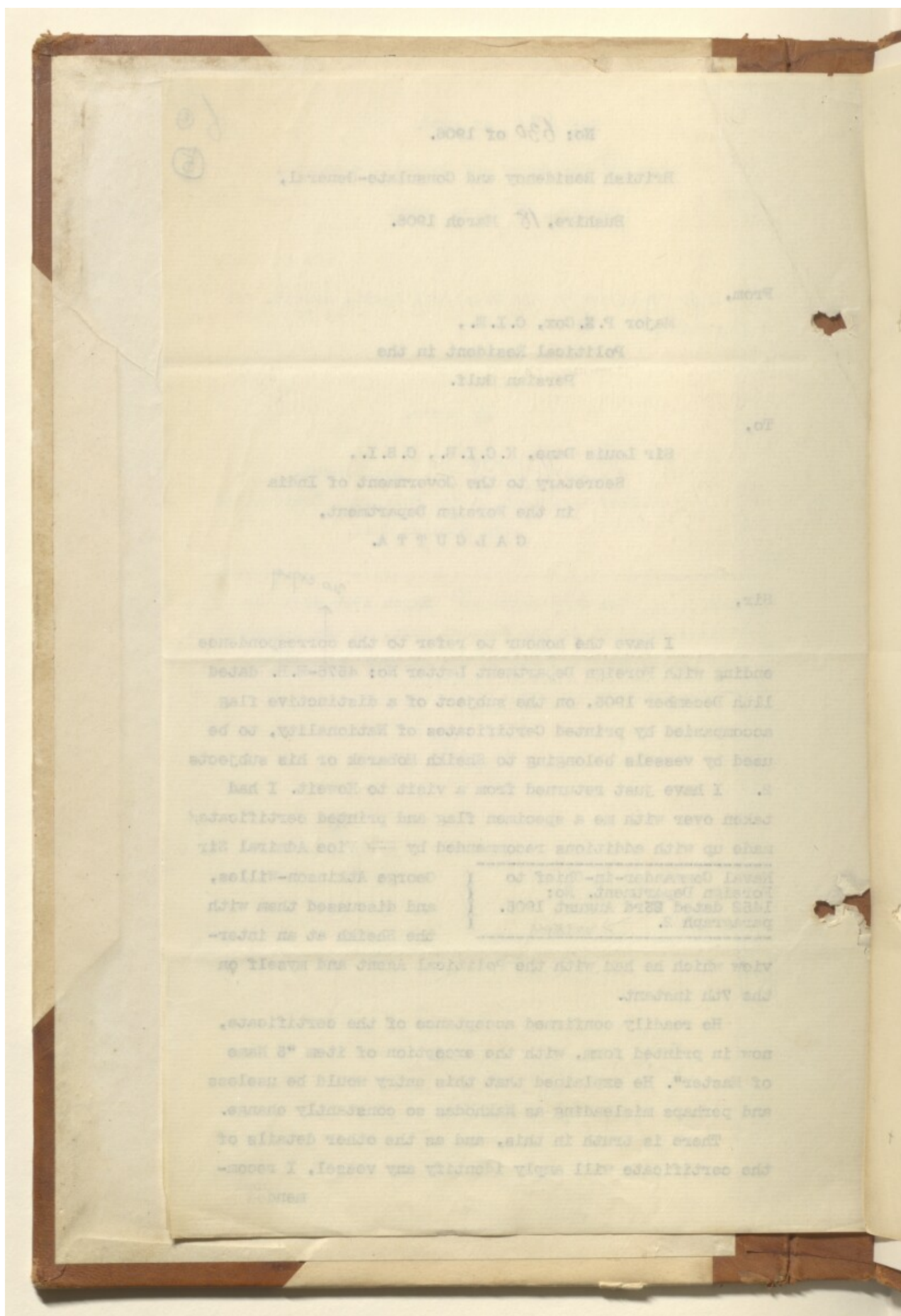
2. I have just returned from a visit to Koweit. I had taken over with me a specimen flag and printed certificate made up with additions recommended by the Vice Admiral Sir George Atkinson-Willes, Naval Commander-in-Chief to Foreign Department. No: 1452 dated 23rd August 1905. paragraph 2. and discussed them with the Sheikh at an inter-

view which he had with the Political Agent and myself on the 7th instant.

He readily confirmed acceptance of the certificate, now in printed form, with the exception of item "5 Name of Master". He explained that this entry would be useless and perhaps misleading as Nakhodas so constantly change.

There is truth in this, and as the other details of the certificate will amply identify any vessel, I recom-

mended





recommend that it be eliminated as he suggests.

3. As to the flag, I regret to say that Sheikh Mobarek would not accept it as it stood; i.e. with the word "Koweit" in the Roman as well as the Arabic Character.

When the flag was first displayed to him, he forthwith asked permission to explain what seemed to him the objections to his adopting it and added that if after ^{hearing} them I were to decide that they were not weighty, he would be prepared to introduce the flag. What he went on to say however amounted to a good deal more than this.

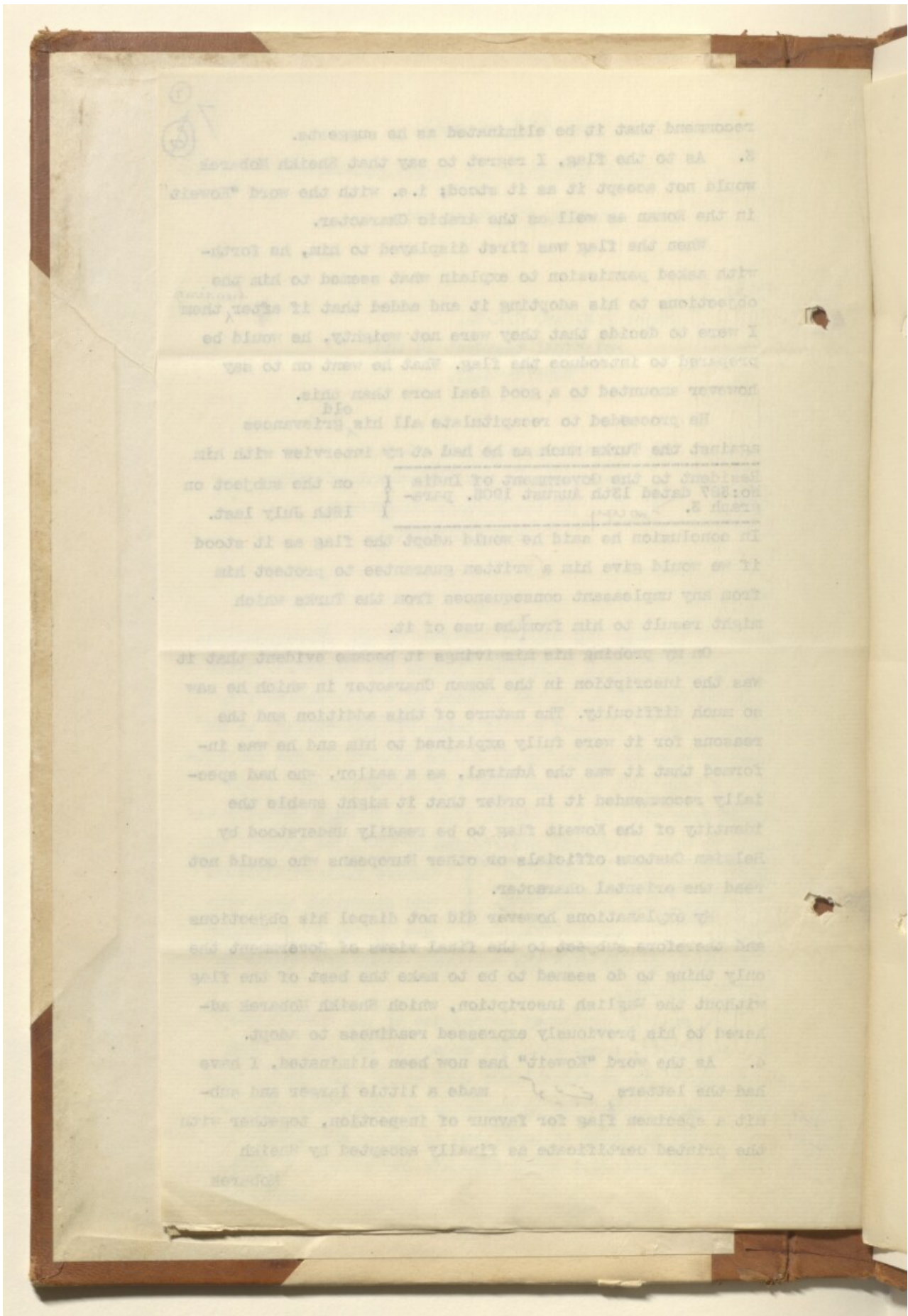
He proceeded to recapitulate all his ^{old} grievances against the Turks much as he had at my interview with him Resident to the Government of India { on the subject on No:387 dated 13th August 1905. para- { 12th July last. graph 3. }
In conclusion he said he would adopt the flag as it stood if we would give him a written guarantee to protect him from any unpleasant consequences from the Turks which might result to him from the use of it.

On my probing his misgivings it became evident that it was the inscription in the Roman Character in which he saw so much difficulty. The nature of this addition and the reasons for it were fully explained to him and he was informed that it was the Admiral, as a sailor, who had specially recommended it in order that it might enable the identity of the Koweit flag to be readily understood by Belgian Customs officials or other Europeans who could not read the oriental character.

My explanations however did not dispel his objections and therefore subject to the final views of Government the only thing to do seemed to be to make the best of the flag without the English inscription, which Sheikh Mobarek adhered to his previously expressed readiness to adopt.

4. As the word "Koweit" has now been eliminated, I have had the letters ^{كوييت} made a little larger and submit a specimen flag for favour of inspection, together with the printed certificate as finally accepted by Sheikh

Mobarek





Mobarek.

⑧ ⑦
8

In the first instance it will I think be advisable to supply the Sheikh gratis with one dozen Bunting Flags x and 500 certificates in two books of 250 each, and if Government are pleased to approve of this suggestion I beg that in order to save time, instructions together with the respective patterns may issue from the Government of India direct to the Ordnance Officer in charge of the Bombay Arsenal and to the Superintendent Government Printing, to supply me with the Articles now asked for, and to comply with my future indents.

5. When handing them over to Sheikh Mobarek the Political Agent ^{might} let him know the cost price per flag and per book and offer to obtain them for him at those prices in future.

6. There is one aspect of the question of the introduction of this flag and certificate which I should not omit in conclusion, to commend to the wise attention of Government.

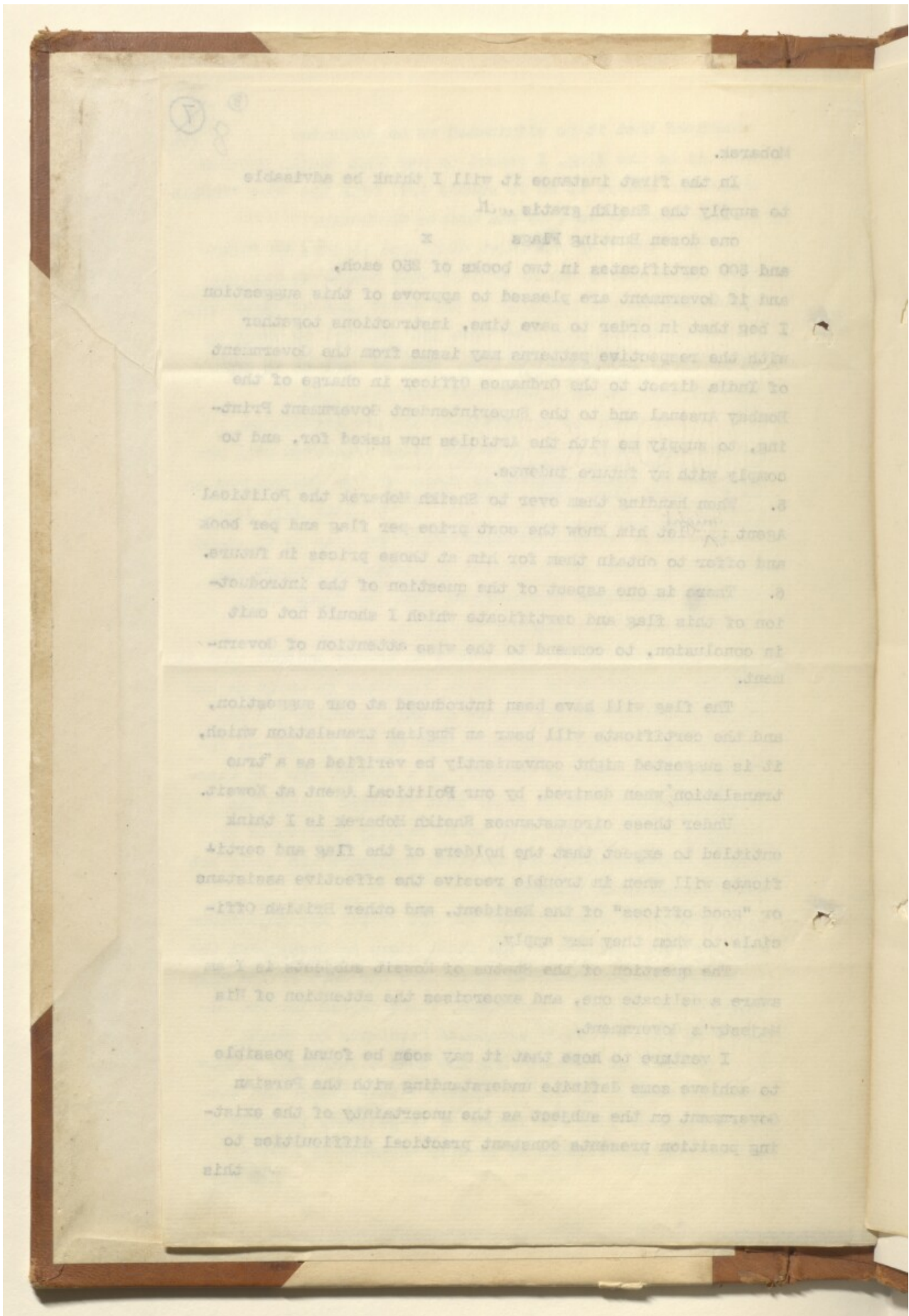
The flag will have been introduced at our suggestion, and the certificate will bear an English translation which, it is suggested might conveniently be verified as a "true translation" when desired, by our Political Agent at Koweit.

Under these circumstances Sheikh Mobarek is I think entitled to expect that the holders of the flag and certificate will when in trouble receive the effective assistance or "good offices" of the Resident, and other British Officials to whom they may apply.

The question of the Status of Koweit subjects is I am aware a delicate one, and excercises the attention of His Majesty's Government.

I venture to hope that it may soon be found possible to achieve some definite understanding with the Persian Government on the subject as the uncertainty of the existing position presents constant practical difficulties to

this





9 98
this Residency.

In this connection I attach copies of the communica-

- | | |
|--|---|
| (1). Minister to Resident. Telegram No:136
dated 1st November 1905. <i>→ page 10</i> | tions last
 exchanged bet-
 ween His Ma-
 jesty's Lega-
 tion and my-
 self in regard |
| (2). Resident to Minister Telegram No: 151
dated 17th November 1905. <i>→ page 11</i> | |
| (3). Minister to Resident Telegram No:137
dated 20th November 1905. <i>→ page 12</i> | |
| (4). Resident to Minister Telegram dated
21st November 1905. <i>→ page 13</i> | |

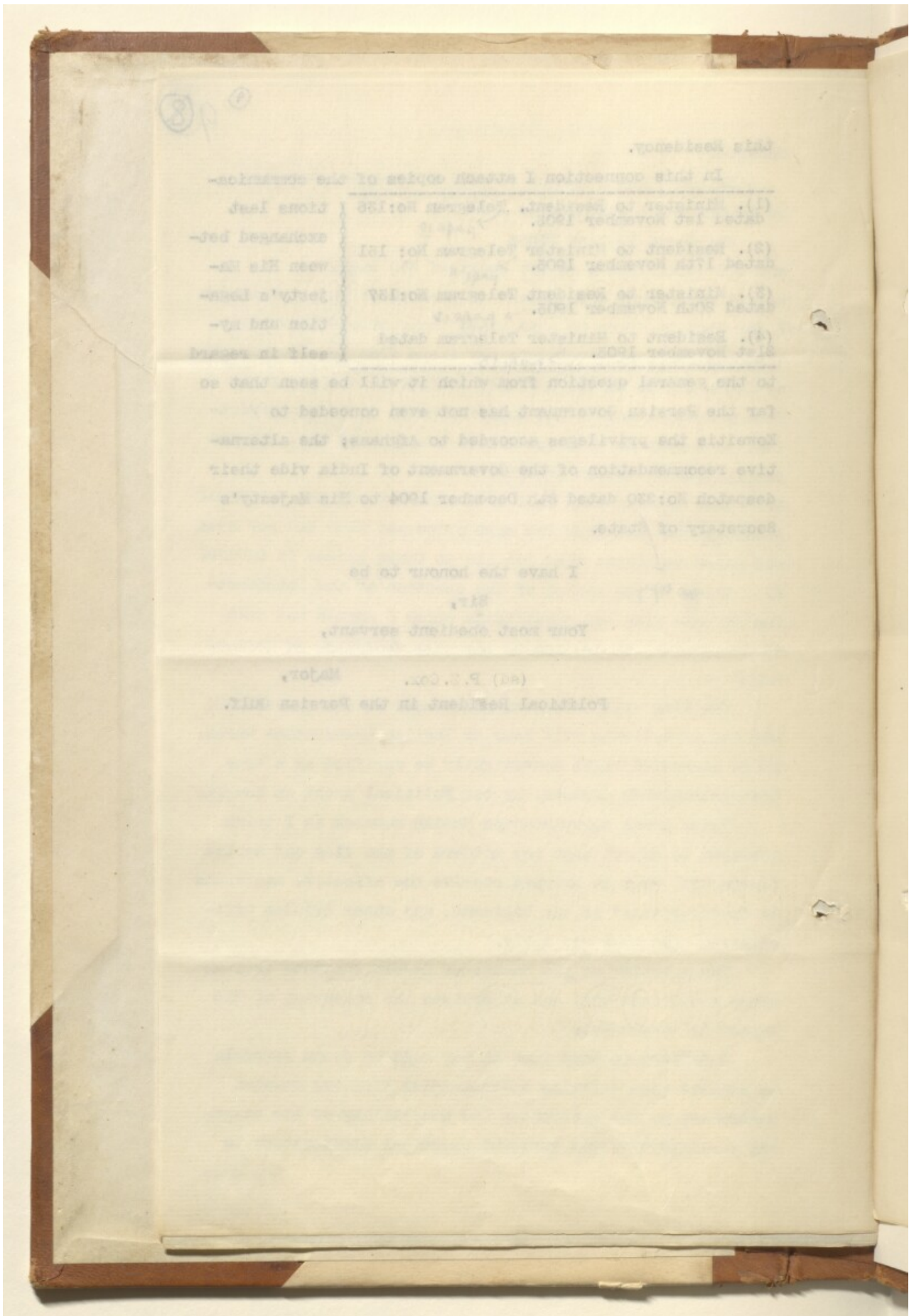
to the general question from which it will be seen that so far the Persian Government has not even conceded to Koweitis the privileges accorded to Afghans; the alternative recommendation of the Government of India vide their despatch No:230 dated 8th December 1904 to His Majesty's Secretary of State.

no copy
I have the honour to be

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

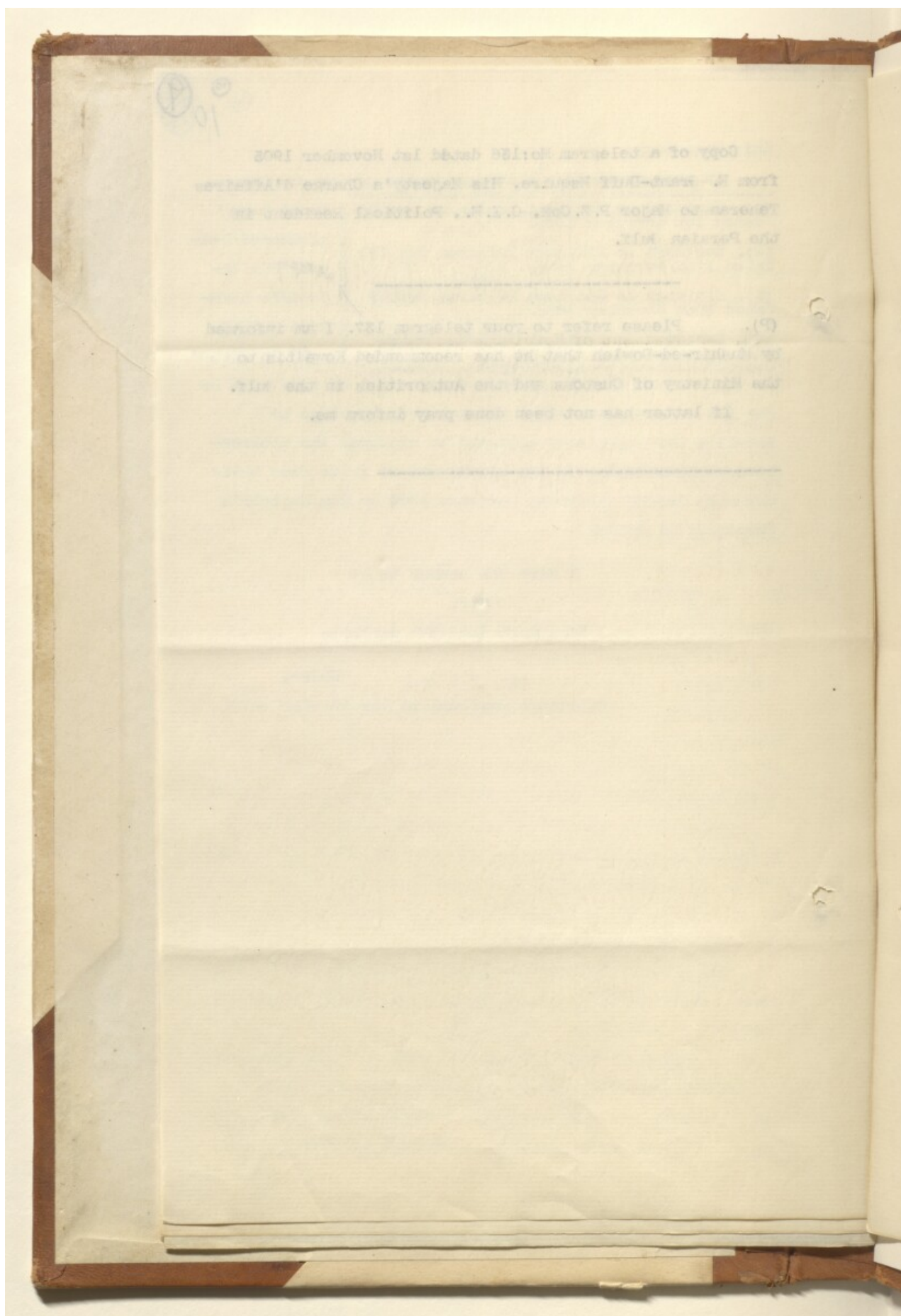
(sd) P. E. Cox. Major,
Political Resident in the Persian Gulf.





Copy of a telegram Mo:136 datad 1st November 1905
from E. Grant-Duff Esquire, His Majesty's Charge d'Affaires
Teheran to Major P. Z. Cox, C.I.E., Political Resident in
the Persian Gulf.

----- no copy
(P). Please refer to your telegram 137. I am informed
by Mushir-ed-Dowleh that he has recommended Koweitis to
the Ministry of Customs and the Authorities in the Gulf.
If latter has not been done pray inform me.





Copy of a telegram No: 151 dated 17th November 1905.
from Major P. Z. Cox, C.I.E., Political Resident in the
Persian Gulf, to Evelyn Grant-Duff Esquire, His Majesty's
Charge d'Affaires, Teheran.

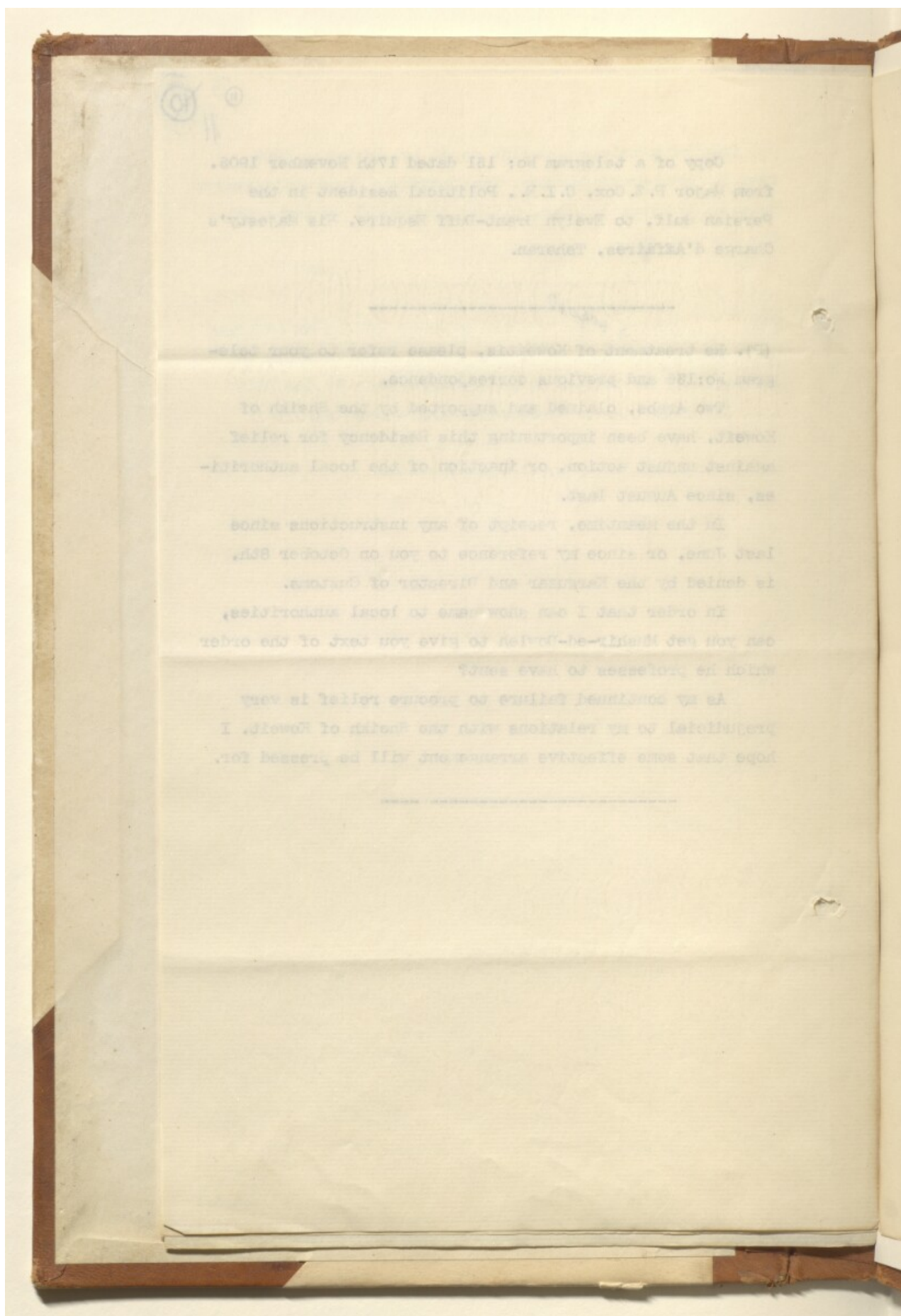
page 12
(P). Re treatment of Koweitis, please refer to your tele-
gram No:136 and previous correspondence.

Two Arabs, claimed and supported by the Sheikh of
Koweit, have been importuning this Residency for relief
against unjust action, or inaction of the local authoriti-
es, since August last.

In the meantime, receipt of any instructions since
last June, or since my reference to you on October 8th,
is denied by the Karguzar and Director of Customs.

In order that I can show same to local authorities,
can you get Mushir-ed-Dowleh to give you text of the order
which he professes to have sent?

As my continued failure to procure relief is very
prejudicial to my relations with the Sheikh of Koweit, I
hope that some effective arrangement will be pressed for.





(12) (14)
12

Copy of a telegram No:137 dated 20th November 1905,
from Evelyn Grant-Duff Esquire, His Majesty's Charge
d'Affaires, Teheran, to Major P. Z. Cox, C.I.E., Political
Resident in the Persian Gulf.

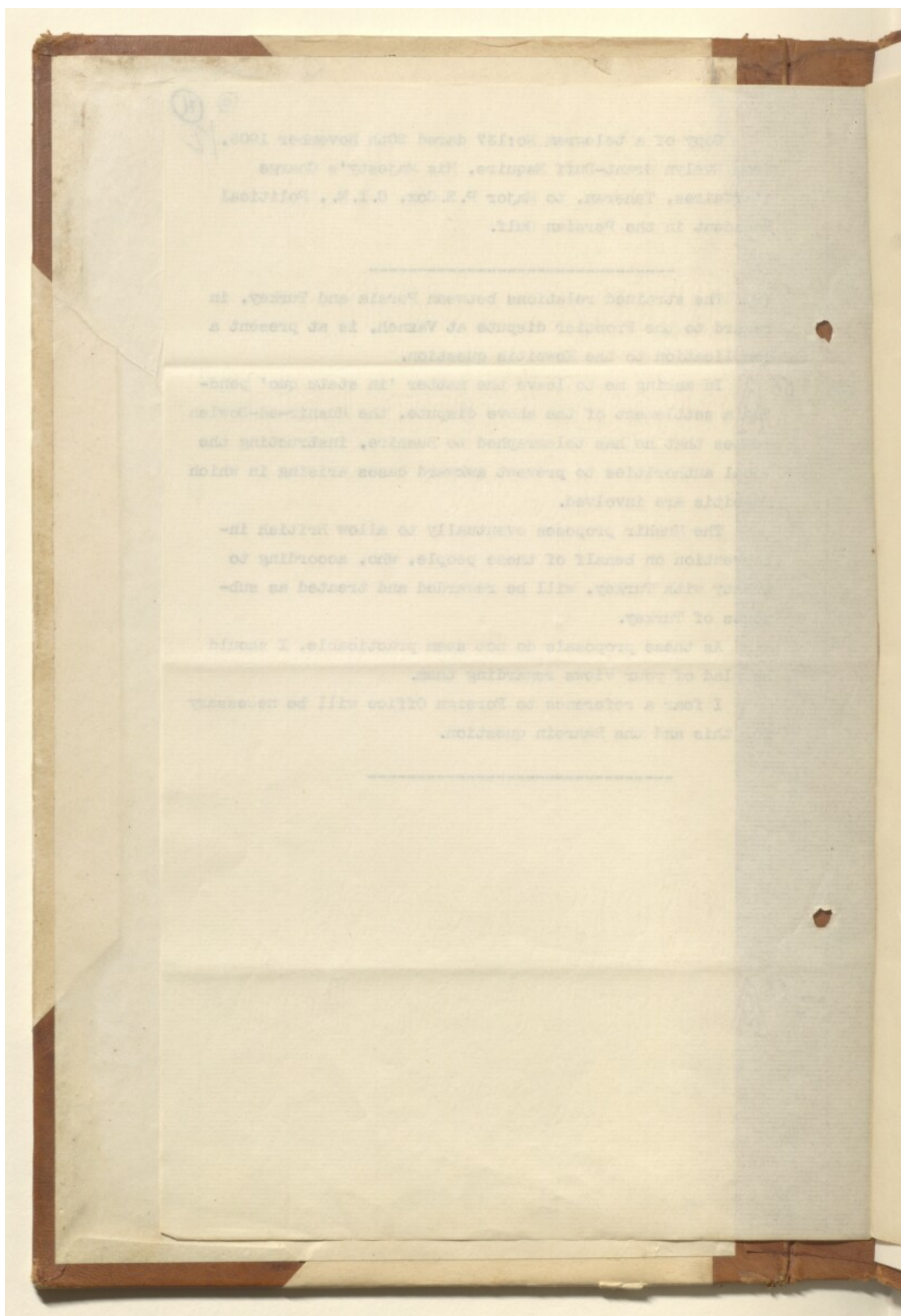
(P). The strained relations between Persia and Turkey, in
regard to the Frontier dispute at Vazneh, is at present a
complication to the Koweitis question.

In asking me to leave the matter 'in statu quo' pend-
ing a settlement of the above dispute, the Mushir-ed-Dowleh
states that he has telegraphed to Bushire, instructing the
local authorities to prevent awkward cases arising in which
Koweitis are involved.

The Mushir proposes eventually to allow British in-
tervention on behalf of these people, who, according to
treaty with Turkey, will be regarded and treated as sub-
jects of Turkey.

As these proposals do not seem practicable, I should
be glad of your views regarding them.

I fear a reference to Foreign Office will be necessary
for this and the Bahrein question.

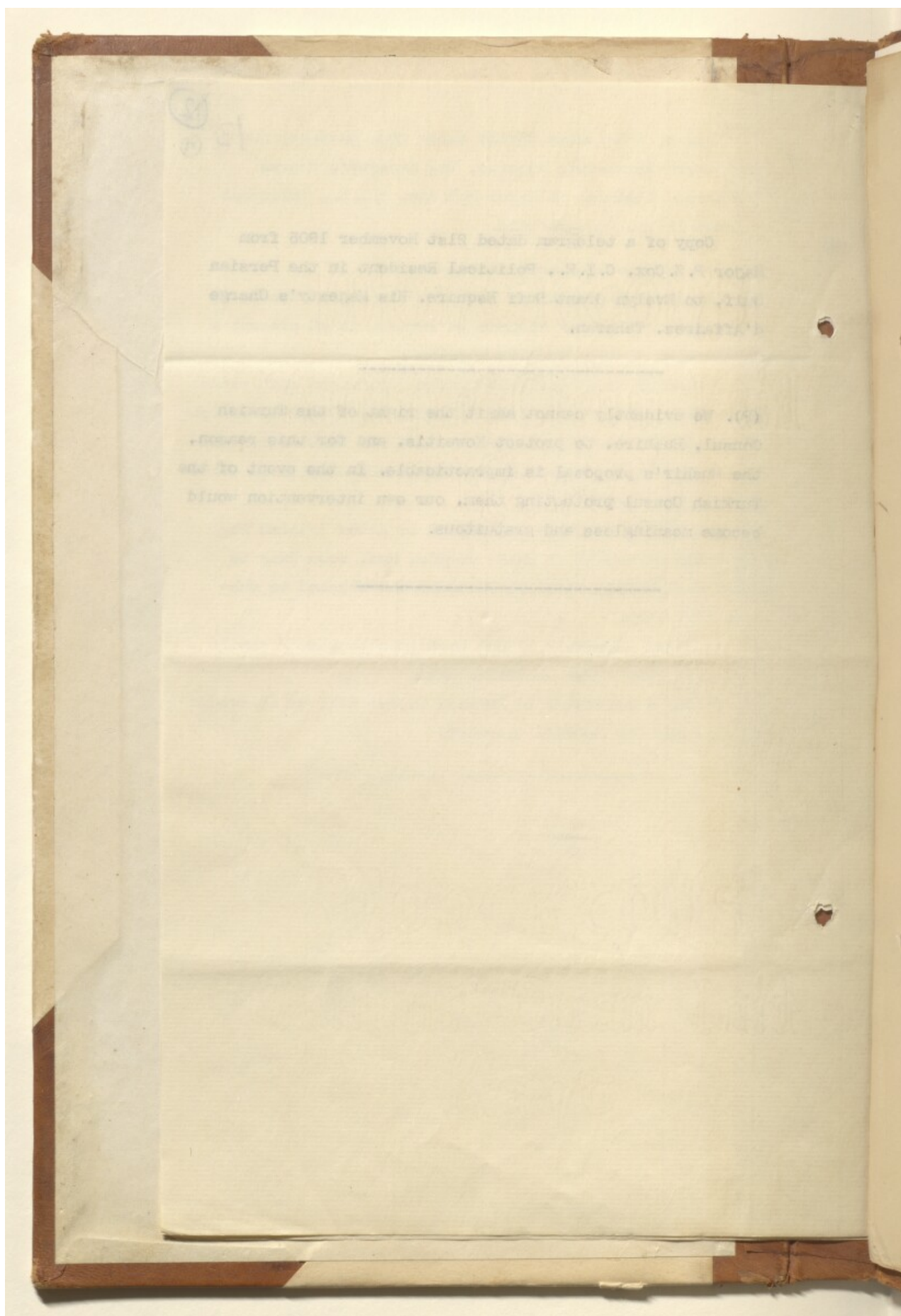




13 (12)
(n)

Copy of a telegram dated 21st November 1905 from
Major P. Z. Cox, C.I.E., Political Resident in the Persian
Gulf, to Evelyn Grant Duff Esquire, His Majesty's Charge
d'Affaires, Teheran.

(P). We evidently cannot admit the right of the Turkish
Consul, Bushire, to protect Koweitis, and for this reason,
the Mushir's proposal is impracticable. In the event of the
Turkish Consul protecting them, our own intervention would
become meaningless and gratuitous.





Koweit (13)
Persian Gulf. 14
11/7/6. (14)

My dear Major,
A report reached
me the other day of what
people are saying in Koweit
viz. that you went to the
Oman coast provided with
a number of flags for the
chiefs of the Quate Coast, that
they all refused to come
under British protection
or to have anything to do
with the flags & that you
returned disappointed (sic)

I kept this ridiculous
garn out of the diary but
thought it as well to pass
it on to you that you might
know what people are
saying.

It seems to me that
the general feeling of
the Gulf has become



very hostile & suspicious
of our intentions of late. 15

Since Muabarak's return
from Muhammurah, I
have not been to see him
& he has not visited me.
I should be glad of instructions
on this subject. For the
past month & more,
neither he nor Sheikh
Jabri have visited me

Yours sincerely
J. Muor.

P.S. Muabarak's last
visit was when I
lectured him about
the arms' trade viz. 25th
May.



S 1910-500-3-66

Confidential.

No. 1568 of 1906.

BRITISH RESIDENCY AND CONSULATE-GENERAL:

Bushire, the 10th July 1906.

A copy of the accompanying letter is forwarded to the Political Agent, Koweit, for information and guidance, in continuation of this office letter no: 631 Dated 18th March 1906.

page 5

By order,

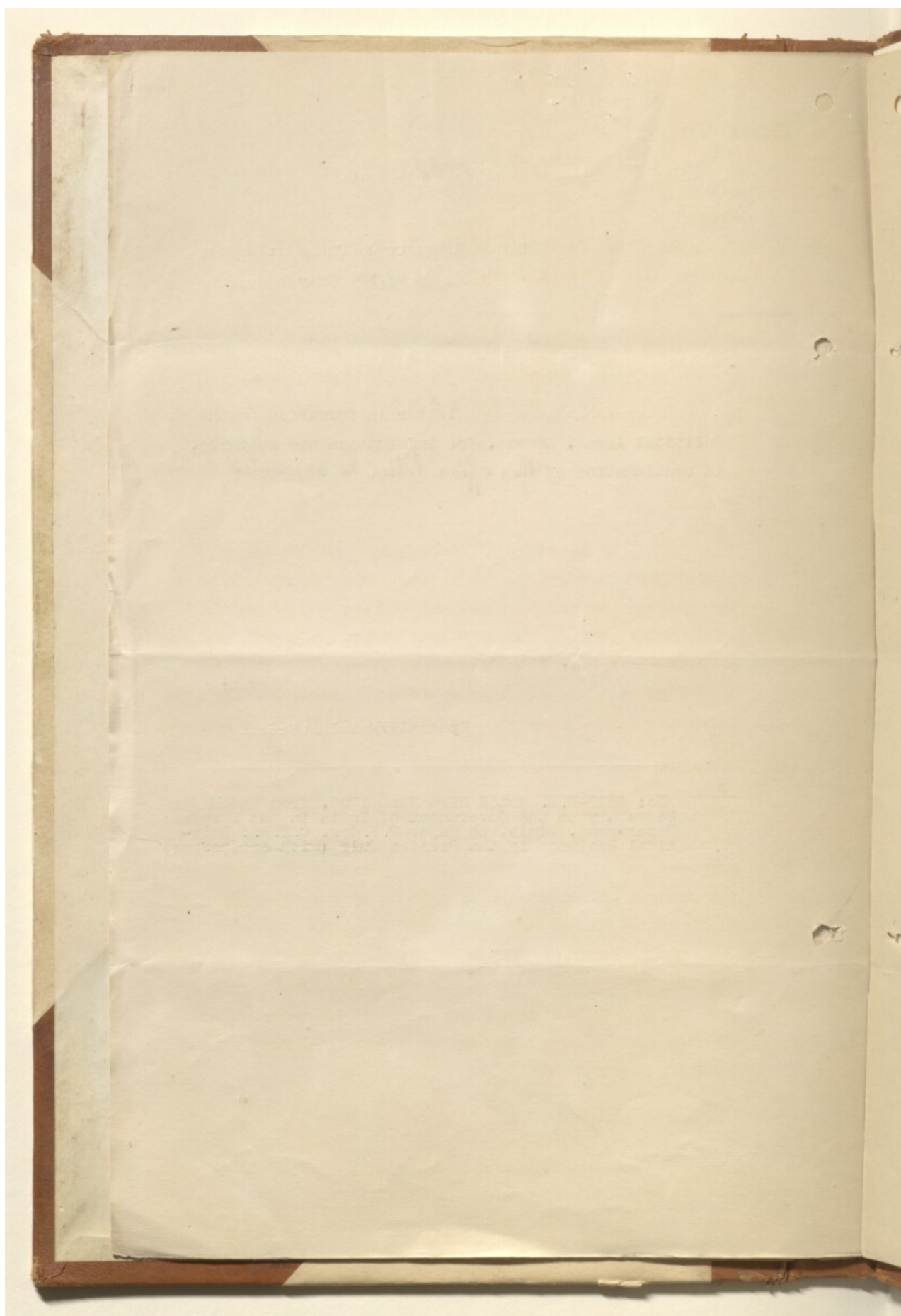
L. Bindwood

Lieut:

Special ~~Asst~~ Assistant Resident.

No: 2635-E.B. dated 23rd June 1906, from the Under Secretary to the Government of India in the Foreign Department, Simla, to Major P.Z. Cox, C.I.E., Political Resident in the Persian Gulf (with enclosures)

below page 17





Confidential.

No: 2635-E.B.

From

The Under Secretary to the Government of India
in the Foreign Department,

To

Major P.Z. Cox, C.I.E.,
Political Resident in the Persian Gulf,
B U S H I R E.

Dated Simla, the 23rd June 1906.

Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No: 630 dated the 18th March 1906, submitting a specimen of the modified pattern of flag and of the form of shipping certificate which the Sheikh of Koweit has expressed himself as finally willing to accept.

2. I am to forward a copy of each of the marginally noted

- (1). Telegram to His Majesty's Secretary of State, No: 2054-E.B. dated 18th May 1906. } telegrams,
(2). Telegram from ... do. ... dated 13th June 1906. } and to
request

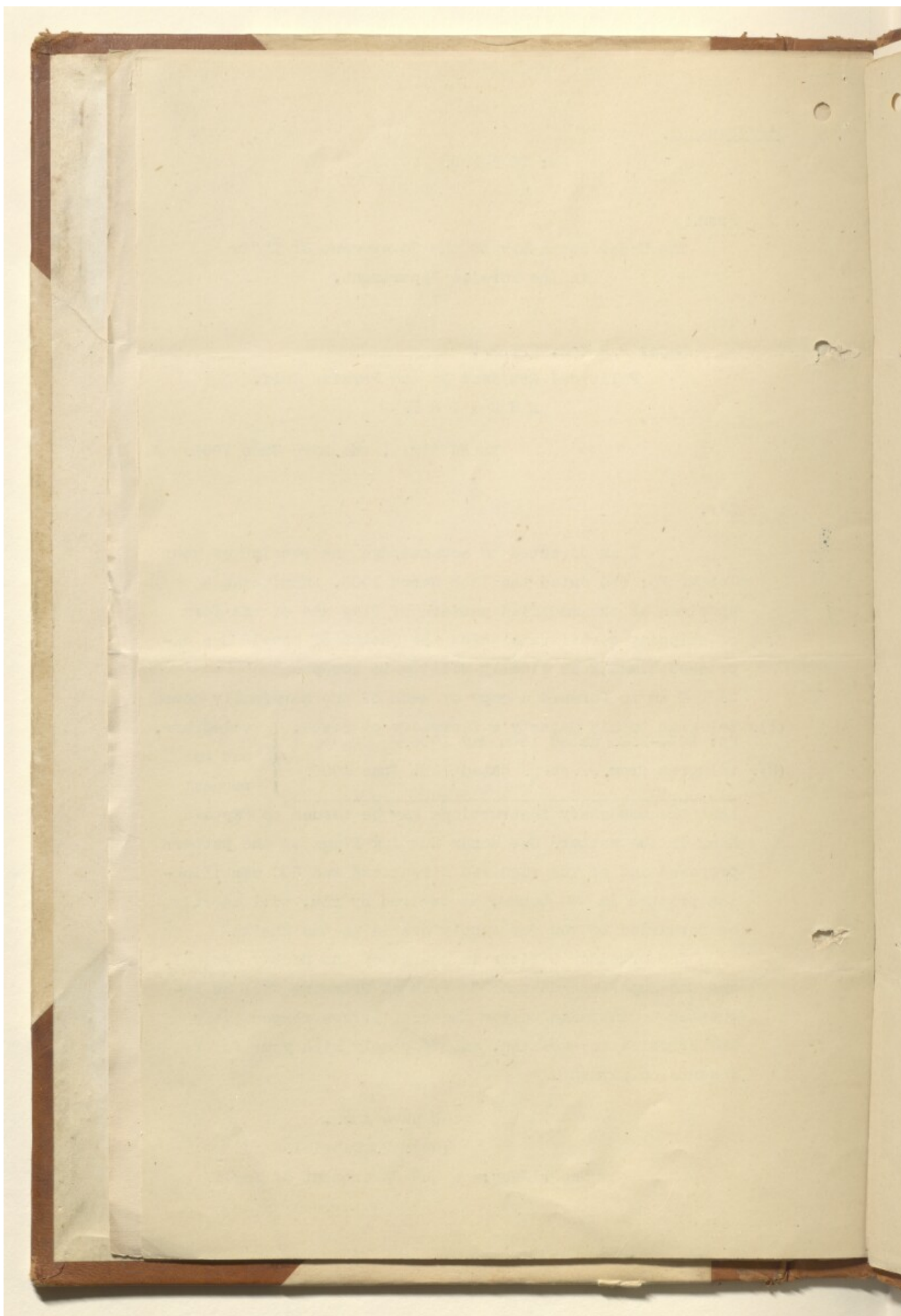
that the necessary instructions may be issued to Captain Knox in the matter. One dozen Bunting Flags of the pattern proposed and of the required dimensions and 500 certificates printed in two books, as desired by you, will shortly be forwarded to you for supply gratis to the Sheikh.

The Ordnance Officer in charge of the Bombay Arsenal, and the Superintendent of Government Printing will be requested to intimate to you the cost prices respectively of the articles in question, and to comply with your future indents on payment.

I have etc.,

(sd). V. Gabriel.

Under Secy: to the Government of India.





(C o p y).

⑦ ⑩
18

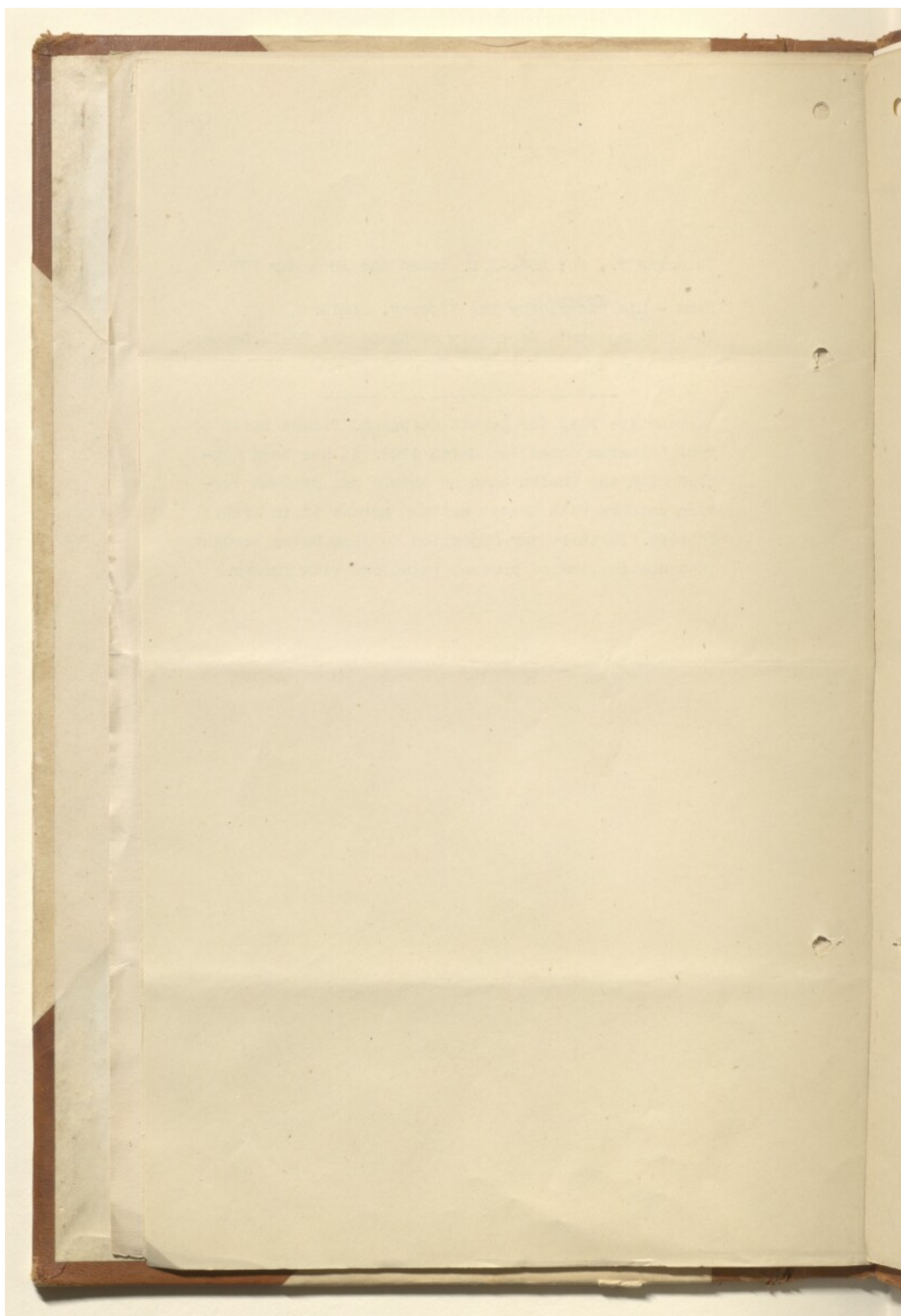
Telegram P., No: 2054-E.B. dated the 18th May 1906.

From - His Excellency the Viceroy, Simla.

To- His Majesty's Secretary of State for India, London.

no copy

Distinctive Flag for Koweit shipping. Please refer to your telegram dated 1st March 1905. It has been settled with the Sheikh that he should use present Turkish pattern with Koweit written across it in Arabic letters. Is there any objection to flag being brought into use in view of present relations with Turkey.





(C o p y).

T e l e g r a m P .

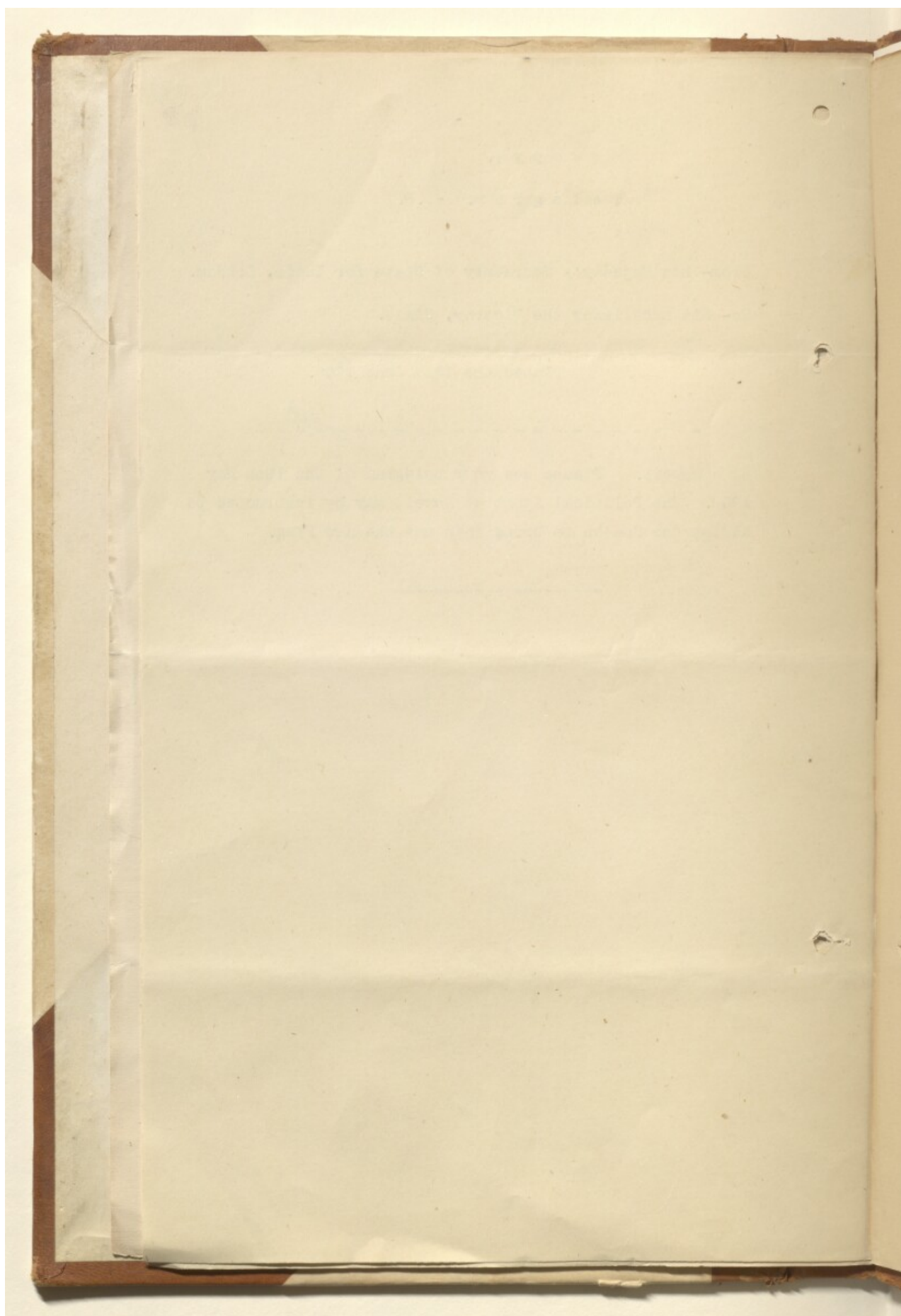
From- His Majesty's Secretary of State for India, London.

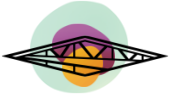
To- His Excellency the Viceroy, Simla.

Dated the 13th June 1906.

----- page 18 -----

Koweit. Please see your telegram of the 18th May 1906. The Political Agent at Koweit may be instructed to advise the Sheikh to bring into use the new Flag.





70 P.R.

(19) (18)
20

Confidential No: 244.

Dj. Koweit

12/7/6.

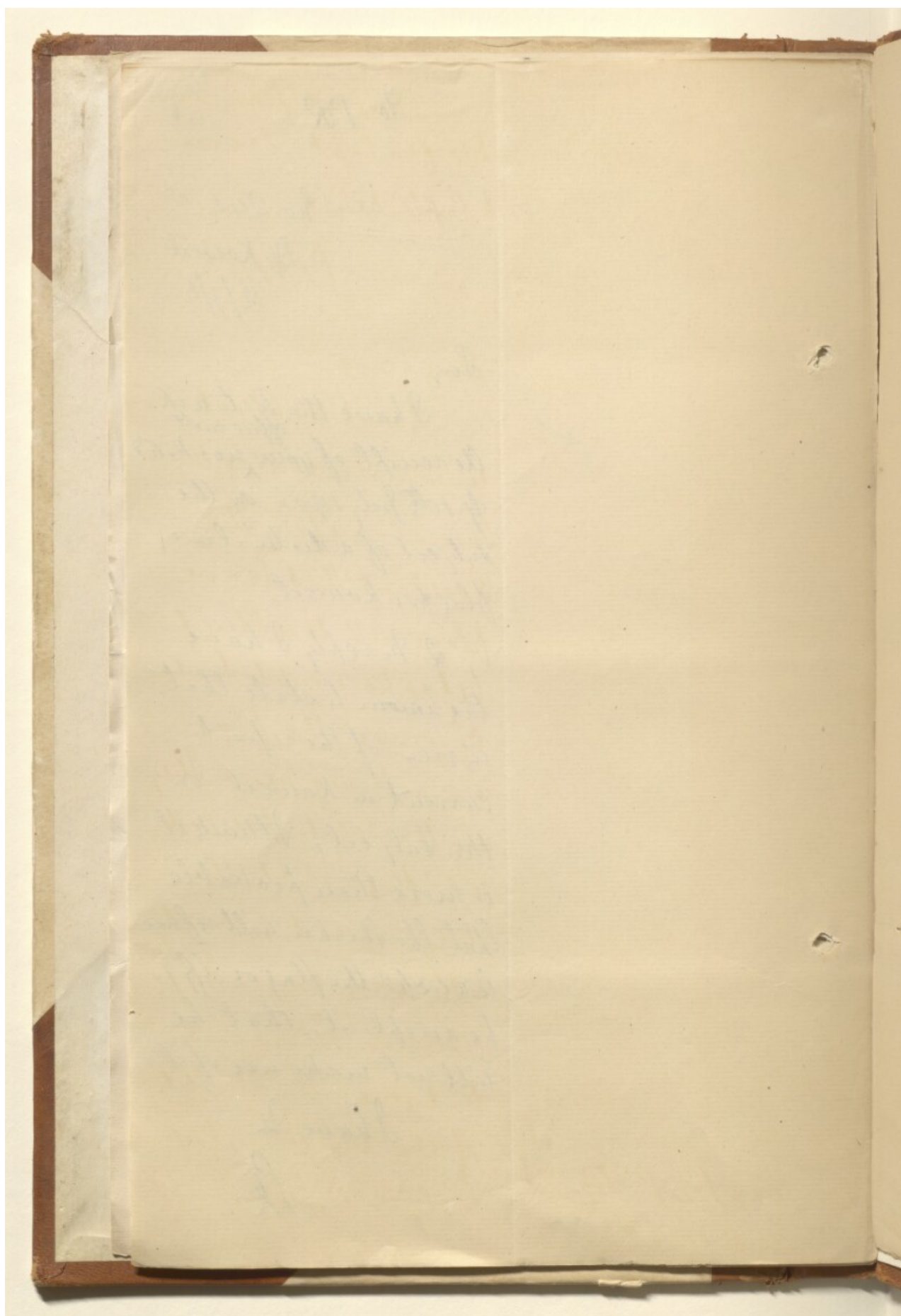
Sir,

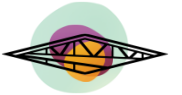
page 16
I have the h. to ack:
office end.
the receipt of your no: 1568
of 10th July 1906 on the
subject of a distinctive
flag for Koweit.

In reply I have
the honour to state that,
in view of the reports
current in Koweit on
this subject, I think it
is more than probable
that the Sheikh will refuse
to accept the flag or, if
he accepts it, that he
will not make use of it.

I have &c

R.





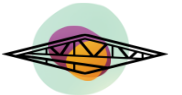
Extract from ²⁰ 21 ¹⁹
D/o. from Capt. Trever
to Capt. Knox.

D/ 15/7/6.

Dear Knox,

page 14
From D/o. about
summon about flag to
Tribal chiefs. The
Resident did leave
flags with the Chiefs
before he went to Simla.
Of course, the flags
are nothing new. They
are the "white pierced
red" flags which the
Chiefs agreed by treaty
to fly 40 or 50 years ago.
After the Resident
had gone, the Sheikh
of Abu Dhabi, cut up
rusty & said he would

Extract
from D/o. to Capt. Trever



not fly the new flag²²
 The Resident is on his
 way back & I have
 tried to him to go round
 the Trucial Coast &
 give a little moral
 persuasion to Sheikh
 Zaid who is a big headed
 old man.

x x x

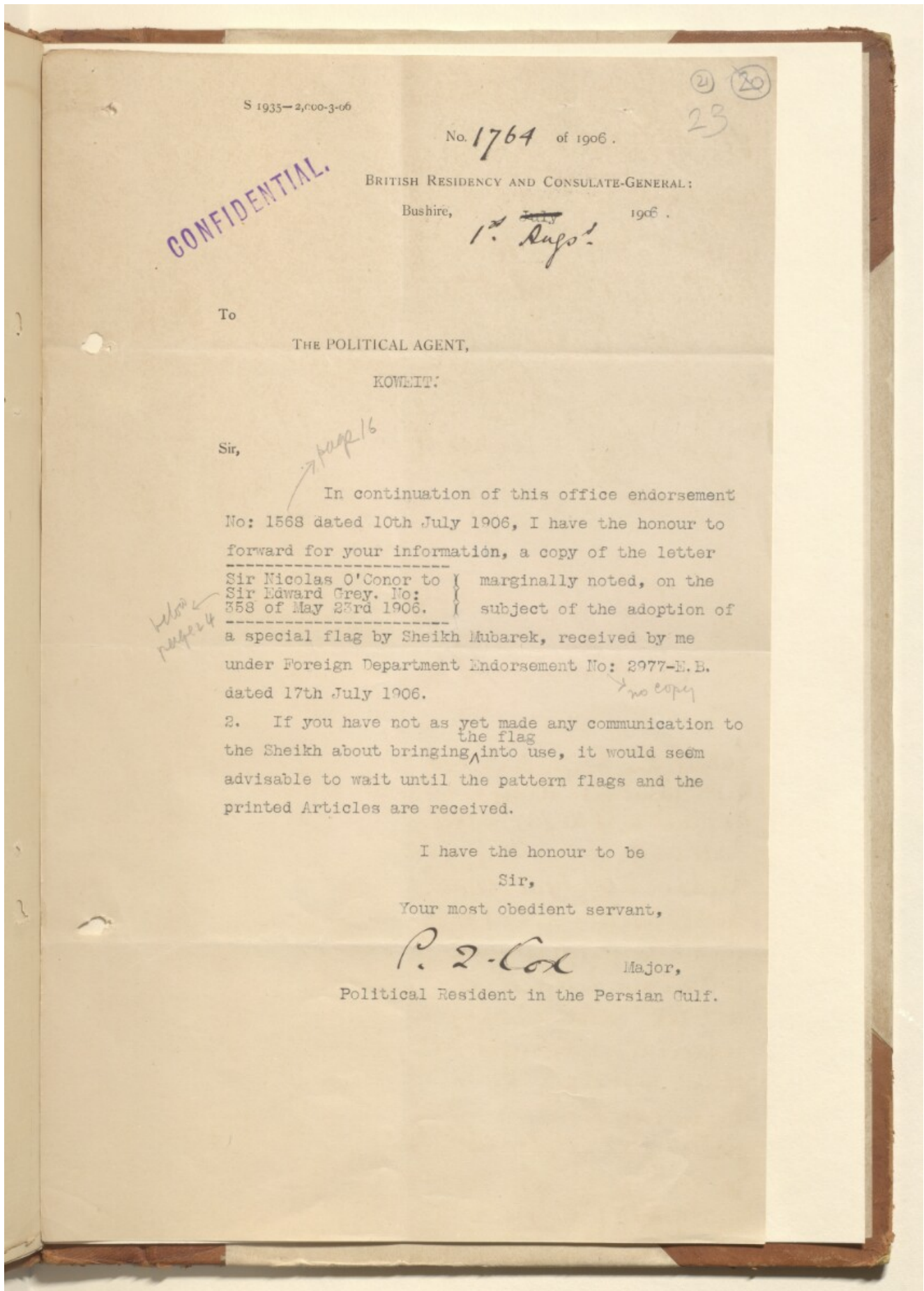
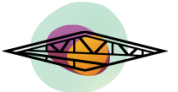
True copy

J. N. Captain

P. a. Kuwait.

Extract from Major Cox's Dec.
 4. 1st August 1866. As regards
 the question of the flag on the
 Pirate Coast, it is nothing new,
 they have simply been shown
 the old treaty & asked to
 stick to the flag prescribed
 in their own interests, so
 that the "Belgique" may
 respect it. You might let
 Sheikh Mubarak know
 this in case there is any
 garbled story afloat in
 Kuwait 5/8/66 JN.

no copy kept



S 1935-2,000-3-06

No. 1764 of 1906.

CONFIDENTIAL.

BRITISH RESIDENCY AND CONSULATE-GENERAL:

Bushire,

1906.

17th Aug 06

To

THE POLITICAL AGENT,

KUWAIT:

Sir,

In continuation of this office endorsement

No: 1568 dated 10th July 1906, I have the honour to

forward for your information, a copy of the letter

Sir Nicolas O'Connor to Sir Edward Grey. No: 358 of May 23rd 1906. marginally noted, on the subject of the adoption of

a special flag by Sheikh Mubarek, received by me

under Foreign Department Endorsement No: 2977-E.B.

dated 17th July 1906.

2. If you have not as yet made any communication to the Sheikh about bringing the flag into use, it would seem advisable to wait until the pattern flags and the printed Articles are received.

I have the honour to be

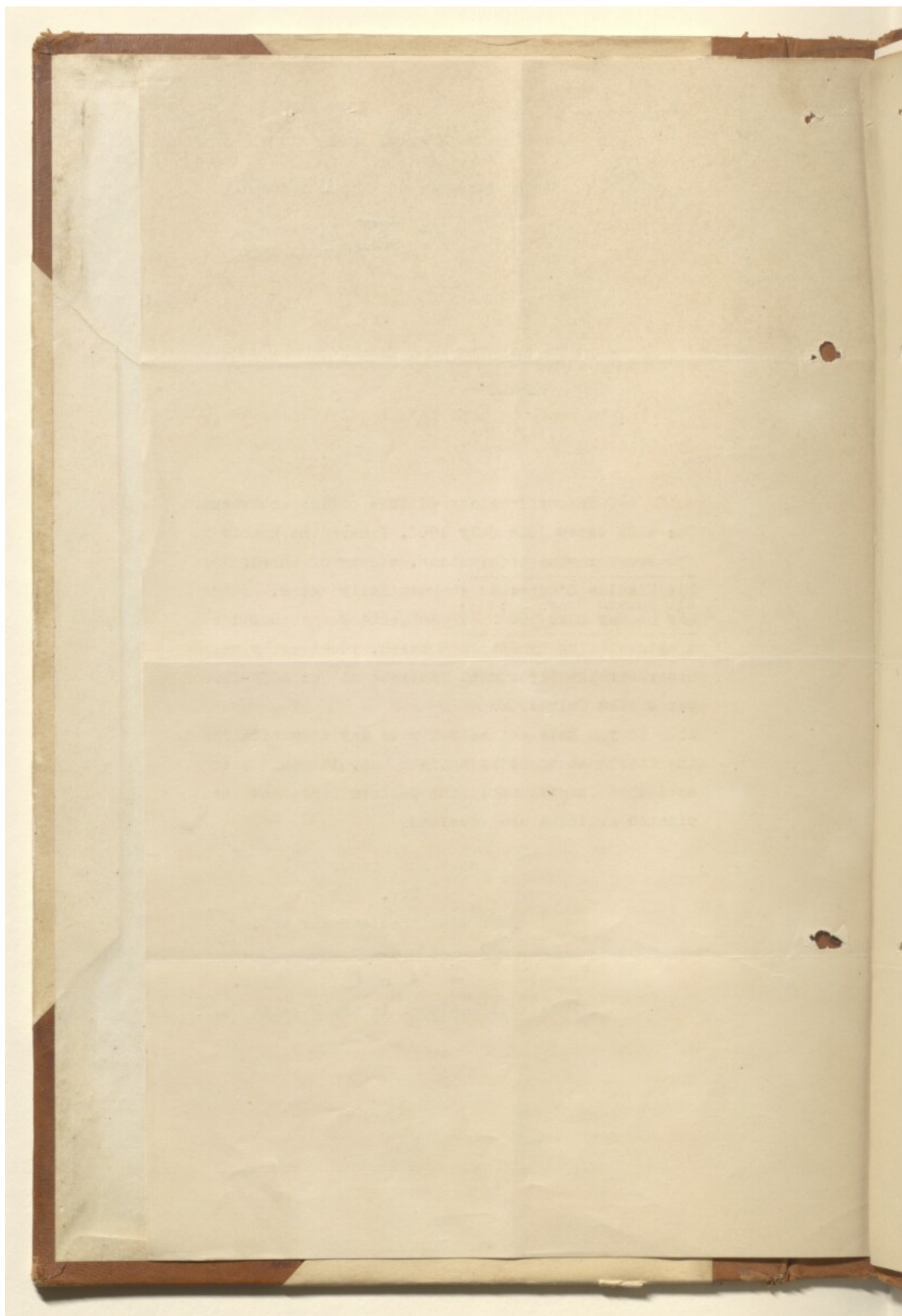
Sir,

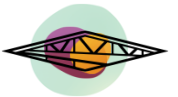
Your most obedient servant,

P. 2. Cox

Major,

Political Resident in the Persian Gulf.





(Copy).

Sir Nicolas O'Connor to Sir Edward Grey.

(22) (21)

24

No: 358.

Confidential.

Constantinople,

May 23rd 1906.

Sir,

no copy

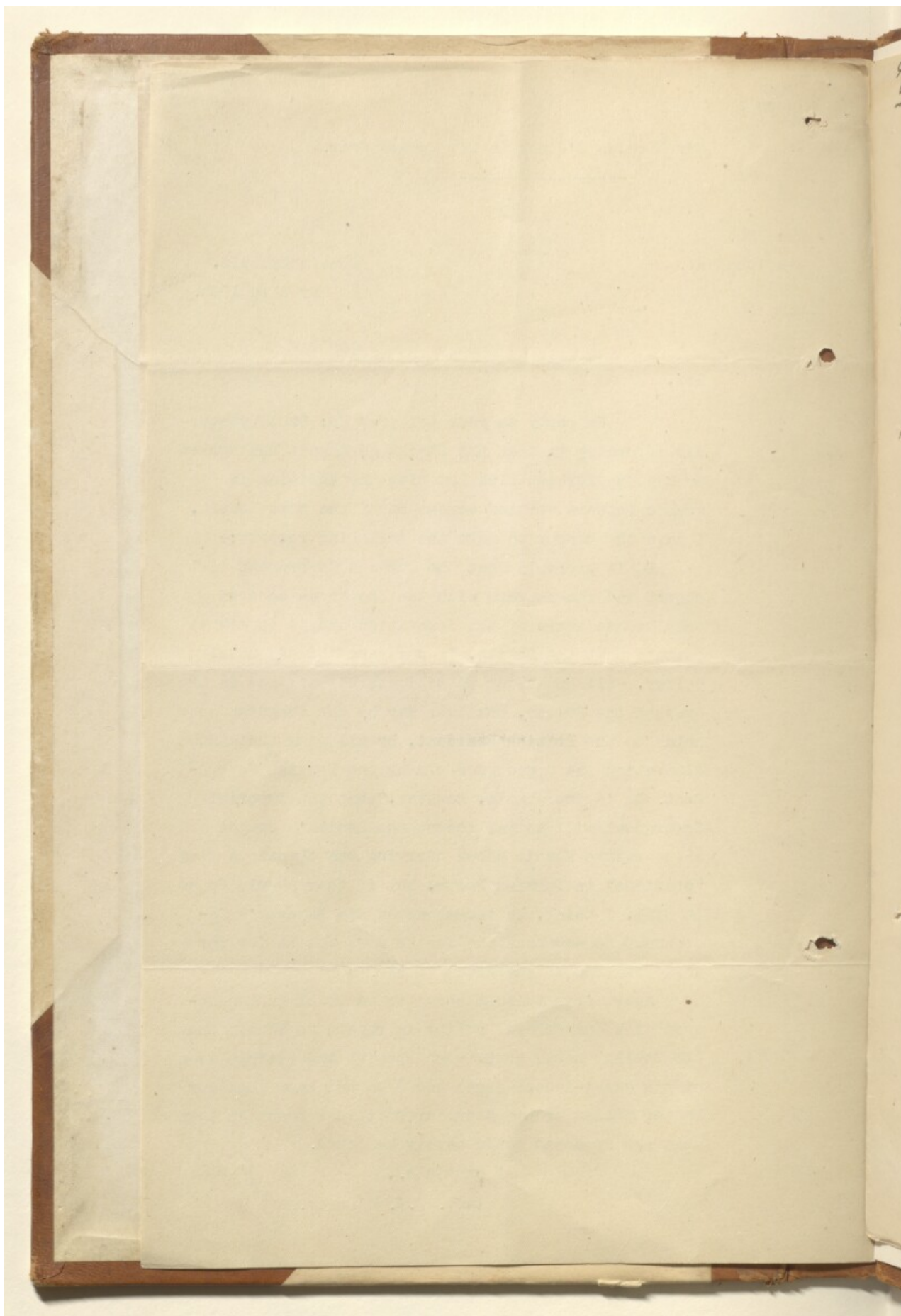
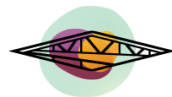
In reply to your telegram No: 92 of yesterday informing me that the Sheikh of Koweit has agreed to use the Turkish Flag but with the addition in Arabic letters written across it of the word Koweit, I have the honour to make the following remarks:-

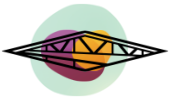
It is probable that the Turkish Government will object and remonstrate with the Sheikh as soon as they become aware of the innovation and it is almost certain that the Sheikh, in pursuance of his usual policy, will endeavour to mitigate his offence in the eyes of the Sultan, whatever may be the language he holds to the British Resident, by alleging that the alteration was urged upon him by the British Government. It is improbable, however, that the Imperial Government will so far resent the Sheikh's action as to refuse Koweit dhows carrying the obnoxious flag "pratique" in Turkish Ports, but if they should do so it will, I think, be incumbent on His Majesty's Government to see that the Sheikh does not suffer for following the advice given to him.

Apart from this it seems to me to be in consonance with our general policy in regard to Koweit that the Sheikh should adopt some special and visible sign of his quasi-independence and I do not know that any better emblem of his peculiar political position than that now proposed could easily be found.

I have etc.,

(sd). N.R. O'Connor.





Richard No 282 Koweit-
d/8.8.06

My dear Major,

x x x x

I will let Sheikh Diobarak
know about the Pirate²⁵
Coast flag on a suitable⁽²²⁾
opportunity occurring.

We have been having
excellent weather for the
time of year in Koweit &
I have come to the conclusion
that the hot weather
here is a very healthy season.
The hospital returns confirm
my experience.

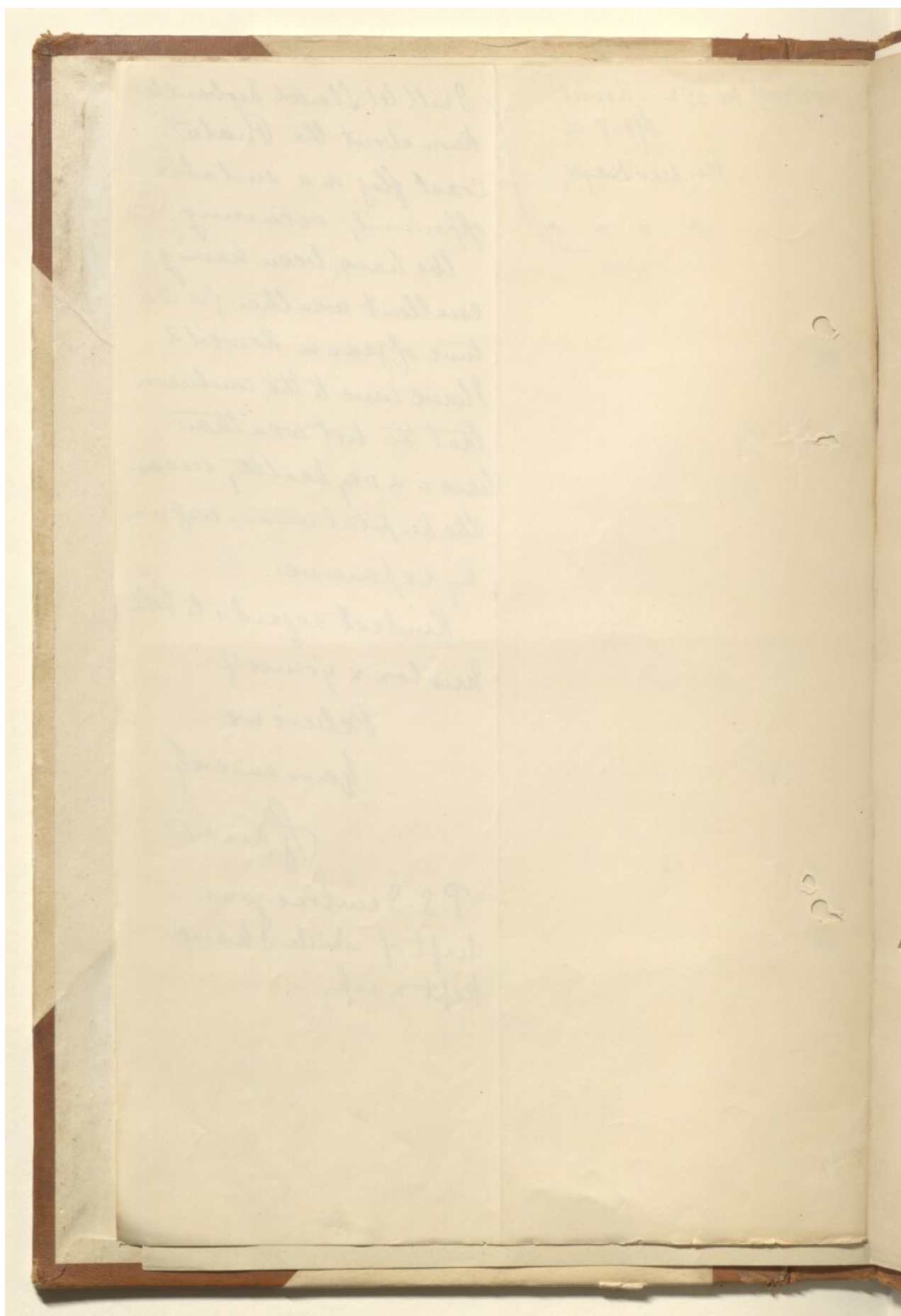
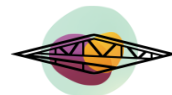
Kindest regards to both
Mrs Cox & yourself

Believe me

Yours sincerely

St. Kevin

P.S. I enclose your
draft of which I have
kept a copy.





S 1935-2,000-3-06

No. 2/30 of 1906.

(24) (28)

26

BRITISH RESIDENCY AND CONSULATE-GENERAL:

Bushire, 14th September 1906.

To

THE POLITICAL AGENT,
KOWLEIT.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward for your information a copy of the marginally noted communication from the Foreign Department No: 3183-L.B. (Government of India and dated 31st July 1906. & enclosure) also a parcel containing two Books of Certificates with counterfoils and one dozen bunting flags of the pattern accepted by Sheikh Mobarek. When delivering them to him I request that you will explain to him that when he wants more he can get them on payment, by requisition through you. The cost price of the Books of Certificates is Rs 4/- each; that of the flags I will intimate later.

I shall also be glad to hear from him in due course as to when I may inform the Persian Customs Administration that the craft of his subjects will carry this flag and Articles.

2. With reference to your letter No: 244 dated 12th July 1906, you have no doubt learnt that nothing can be done by us or others in these waters without generating idle Bazaar gossip, but if you think that Sheikh Mobarek is specially affected by it in this case, or that for any other reason a more favourable opportunity for asking him to introduce the new forms and flags would be gained by a waiting



waiting a little, I leave it to your discretion to do so.

27

I have the honour to be

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

P. 2. Cox Major,

Political Resident in the Persian Gulf.

(25) (24)
28

✓
no copy

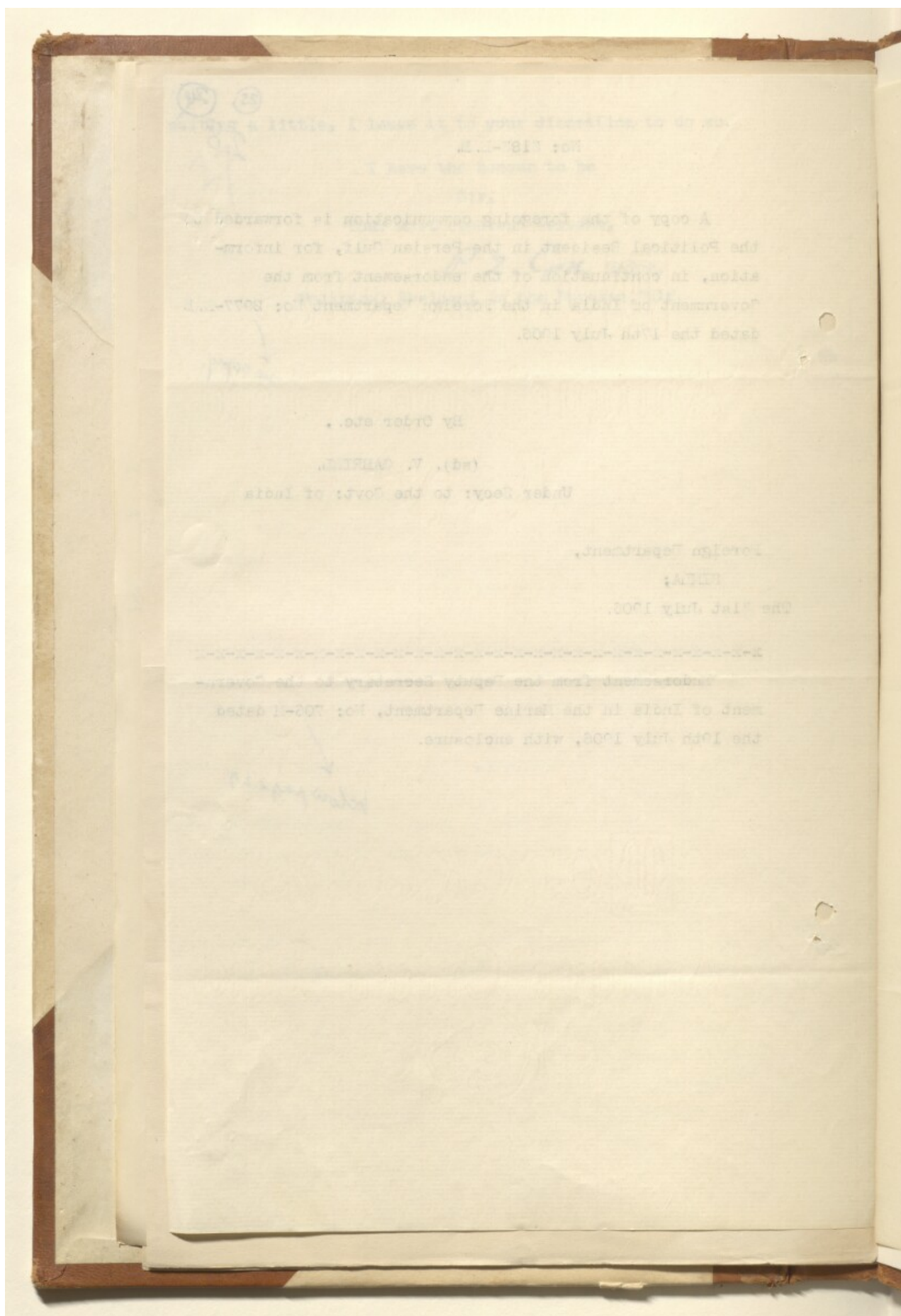
(sd). V. GABRIEL.

Foreign Department,

The 31st July 1906.

Endorsement from the Deputy Secretary to the Government of India in the Marine Department, No: 706-M dated the 19th July 1906, with enclosure.

below page 29





C O P Y.
No. 706-M
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.
MARINE DEPARTMENT.

26 25
29

Simla, the 19th July 1906.

To,

The Director General of Ordnance in India.

Sir,

I am directed to request that the Officer in Charge of the Bombay Arsenal may be instructed to supply the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf, Bushire, with one dozen bunting flags of the pattern sent herewith, free of charge, for presentation to the Sheikh of Koweit.
2. Any further number of these flags that may be required should be supplied on payment on the requisition of the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf, and I am to ask that the officer in charge Bombay Arsenal may be requested to inform him of the cost.

I have etc.,

(sd). H.T. Kenny.

Deputy Secretary to the Govt. of India.

Copy forwarded to:-

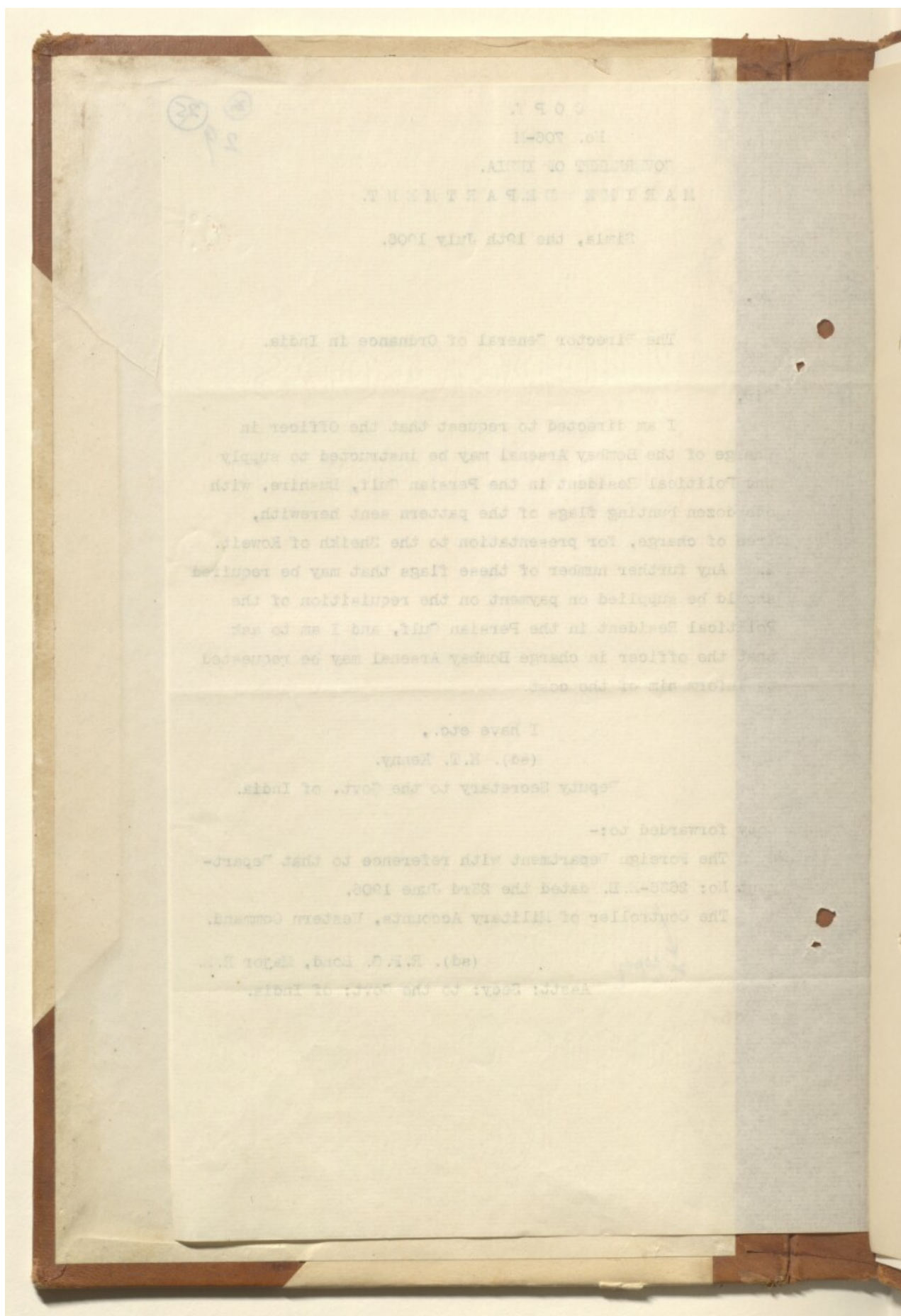
The Foreign Department with reference to that Department No: 2636-L.B. dated the 23rd June 1906.

The Controller of Military Accounts, Western Command.

no copy

(sd). R.F.C. Bond, Major R.E.

Asstt: Secy: to the Govt: of India.





From Captain S. G. Knox ^{(27) (26)}

P. A. Koweit 30

To Major P. L. Cox C.I.E.

P. R. Bushie

Confid! No 380. Df. Koweit
30/9/6.

Sir,

I have the honour to
inform you that, at an
interview I had with Sheikh
Kobarak at the Agency ^{on the 29th inst} I
showed him the books &
flag forwarded under
Cover of your no 2130 Df.
14th September 1906.

2. Sheikh Kobarak at
once agreed to the use of
the ship's articles but
demurred to the use of
the flag, which he said
was sure to get him into
trouble with the Turkish
authorities at Basra.

3. I suggested that it



might be possible to fly 31
the flag in the waters
of the Persian Gulf &
Indian waters I avoid
using it in the Shatt
el Arab, but the Sheikh
replied that the Turks
would be sure to hear of
it & would retaliate by
oppressive measures not
on the boat that used the
flag but on all Koweit
boats indiscriminately.

4. In the absence of
instructions, I did not feel
justified in expressing surprise
at his failing to keep his
promise made to you to use
the flag. Sheikh Inbarak
did not show any marked aversion
hostility to the new flag
but he cited the cases of
Abdul Aziz bin Salim bin
Badar, of the agents of
the firm of Shubaili who,
he said, were still languishing



in prison at Kouia asking
what offence they had
committed & receiving³²
no reply. He also mentioned
a case of which I had not
heard previously when
an agent of Sheikh Khorasani
was enlisted & taken to
Uttassa & eventually
~~bought~~ bought a substitute
to replace him. The case
seems to have been running
for some two years & the
Turkish authorities were
probably acting legally
under the conscription &
the matter would have been
mentioned before.

5. It was obvious that
the inference I was
intended to draw was
that the Sheikh felt no
confidence in our ability &
willingness to protect



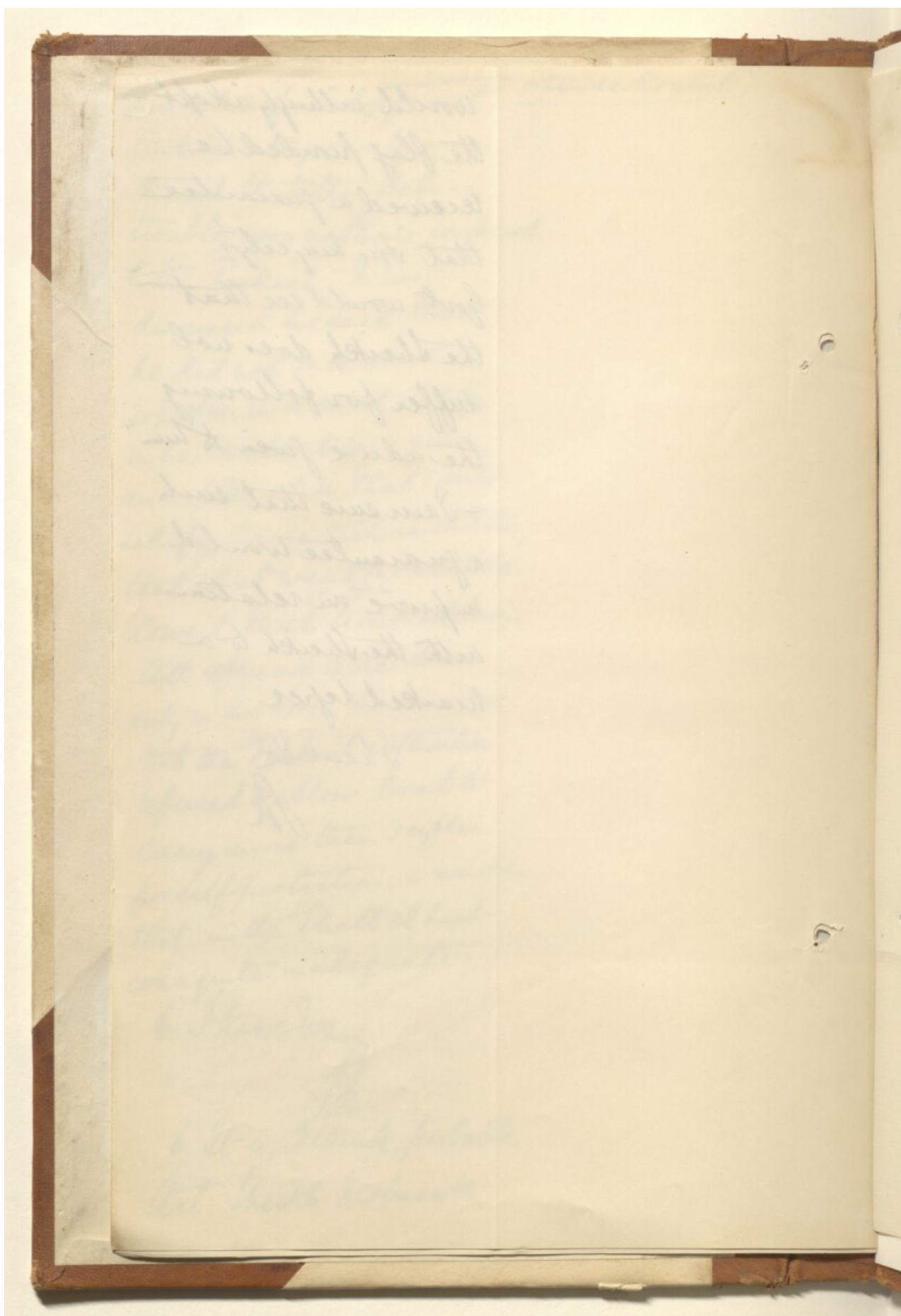
him & his friends against outside Kuwait
Turkish intrigues & tyranny. 33
He said that the Belgian
trouble was nothing compared
to the Turkish. In another
discussion he said that
he did not care what
went on in Kuwait itself,
as he could always give
an explanation that would
satisfy the Turkish authorities,
that what went on outside
Kuwait ^{was what} troubled him.
With reference to the armu-
enty in the book, he remarked
that the Turkish authorities
refused to allow boats to
carry more than 3 rifles
for self protection, a number
that in the Shatt el Arab
was quite inadequate.
I have so

It is, I think, probable
that Sheikh Mubarak



would willingly adopt ⁽²⁰⁾
the flag provided he ³⁴ ⁽²¹⁾
received a guarantee
that "His Majesty's
Govt. would see that
the Sheikh does not
suffer for following
the advice given to him"
& I am sure that such
a guarantee would
improve our relations
with the Sheikh to a
marked degree.

I have &c
R.





No: 2417 of 1906.

British Residency and Consulate-General,

Bushire, 14th October 1906.

35
29
30

Copy forwarded to the Political Agent, Koweit, for information, with reference to correspondence ending with his letter No: 380 dated September 30th 1906, with the compliments of the undersigned.

↓ page 30

By Order,

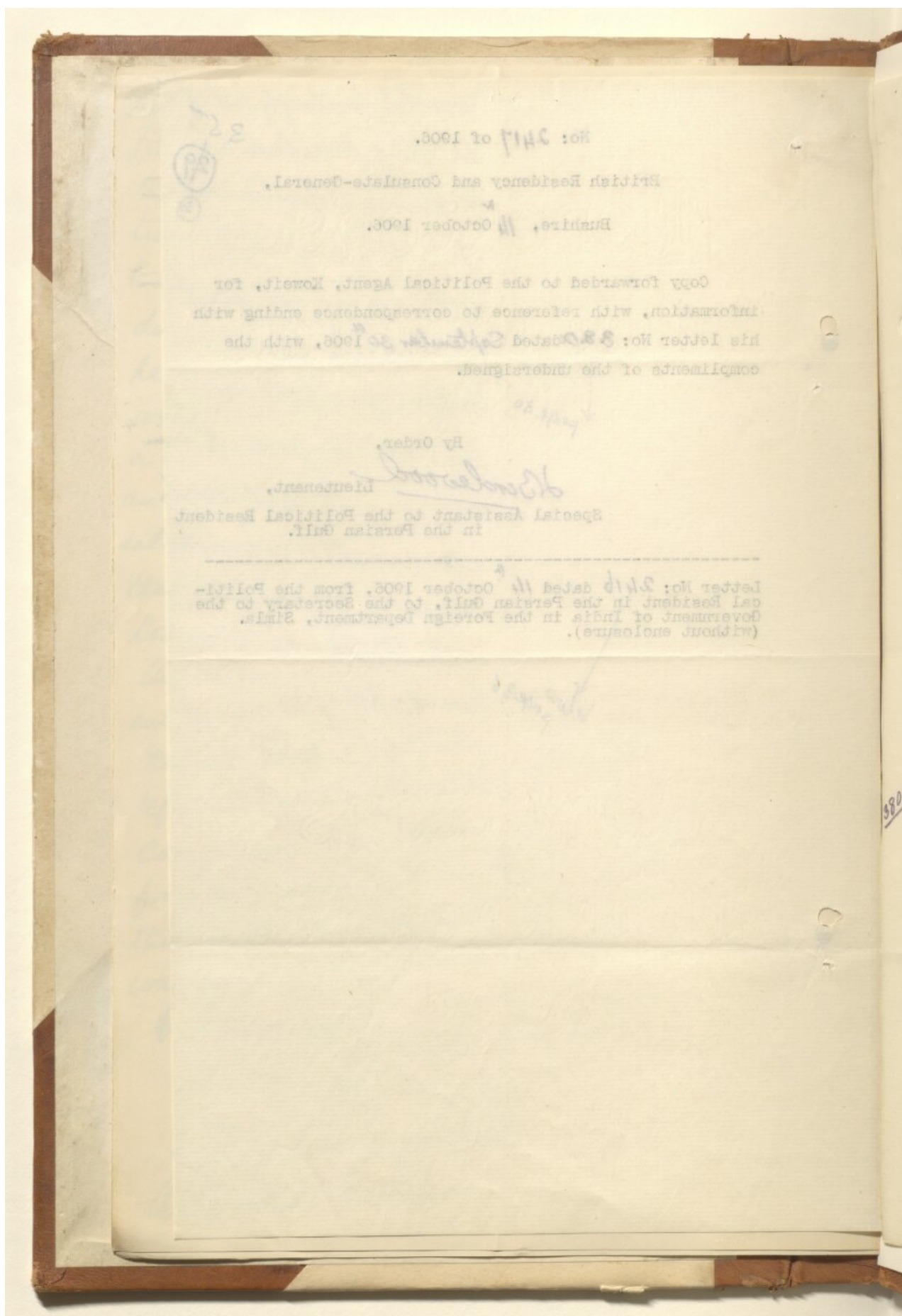
L Birdwood

Lieutenant,

Special Assistant to the Political Resident
in the Persian Gulf.

Letter No: 2416 dated 14th October 1906, from the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf, to the Secretary to the Government of India in the Foreign Department, Simla. (without enclosure).

↓ below page 36





Spans Copy for Kuwait (31)
No: 24/6 of 1906. 36

British Residency and Consulate-General,
Bushire, 14 October 1906. (30)

From

Major P. Z. Cox, C.I.E.,
Political Resident in the
Persian Gulf.

To

Sir Louis Dane, K.C.I.E., C.S.I.,
Secretary to the Government of India
in the Foreign Department,
S I M L A.

Sir,

page 30
page 28
I have the honour to invite a reference to the correspondence ending with Foreign Department Endorsement No: 3183-E.B. dated 31st July 1906 on the subject of a distinctive flag for Kuwait, and to forward a copy of the Political Agent's report of what has since passed between himself and Sheikh Mubarek on the subject.

2. In view of the fact that once to me personally, and

(1) Resident to Foreign No: 337
dated 16th July 1905.

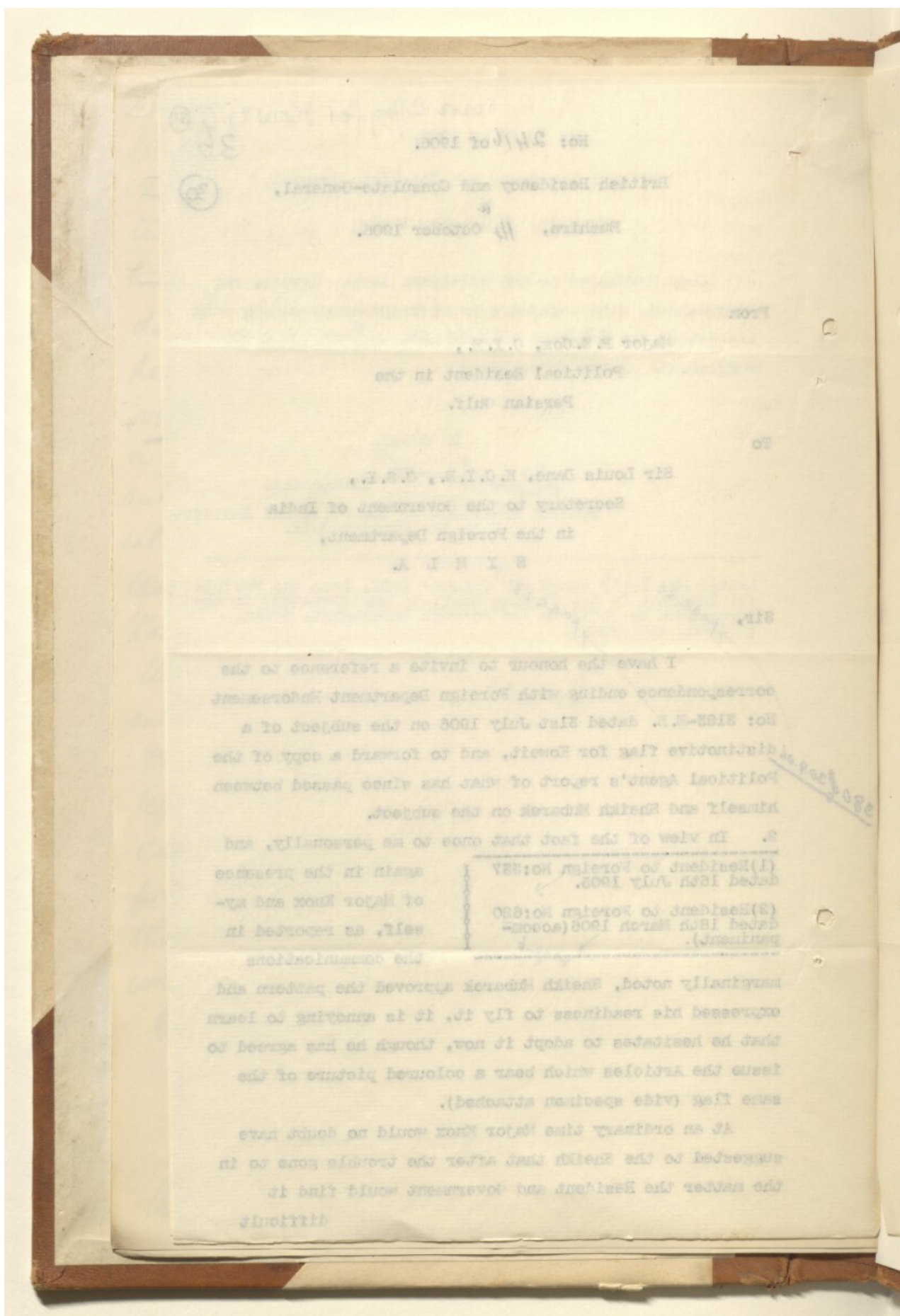
again in the presence
of Major Knox and my-
self, as reported in

(2) Resident to Foreign No: 620
dated 18th March 1906 (accom-
paniment).

the communications

marginally noted, Sheikh Mubarek approved the pattern and expressed his readiness to fly it, it is annoying to learn that he hesitates to adopt it now, though he has agreed to issue the Articles which bear a coloured picture of the same flag (vide specimen attached).

At an ordinary time Major Knox would no doubt have suggested to the Sheikh that after the trouble gone to in the matter the Resident and Government would find it
difficult





difficult to understand his going back on his undertaking,
but it is so important at the present moment that the at-
mosphere between him and the Political Agent should remain
clear, that as far as the ^{latter} personally was concerned it was
perhaps as well that he left the matter where he did for
the time being, instead of pursuing the subject.

3. There can be little doubt that Sheikh Mubarek's
specific object in acting as he has, is that surmised by
Major Knox in paragraph 5 of his letter, and I venture to
hope that the Government of India will be pleased to re-
commend to His Majesty's Secretary of State to authorise
the accord of some measure of guarantee in connection with
the use of the flag, on the lines suggested.

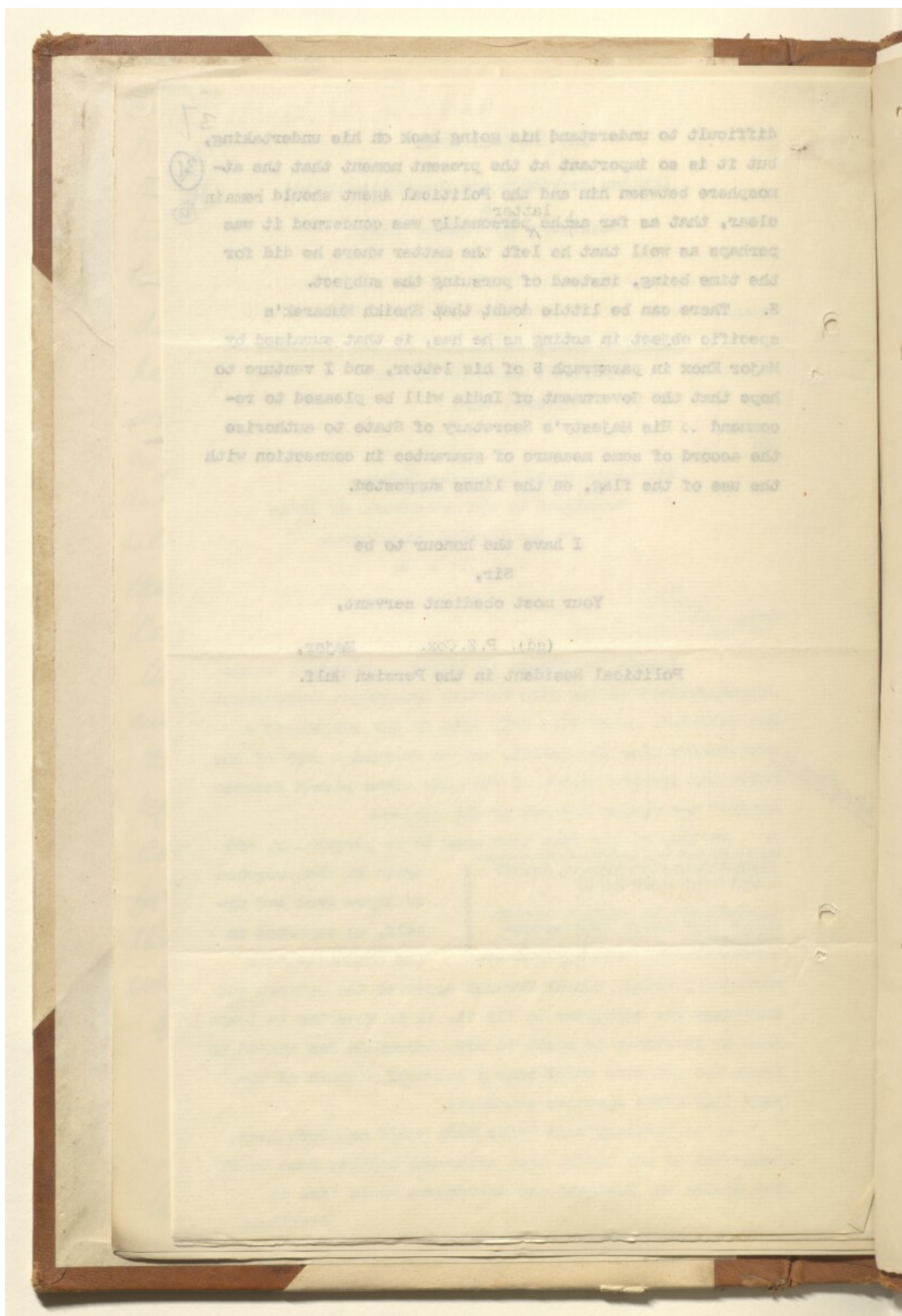
I have the honour to be

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(sd). P. Z. Cox. Major,

Political Resident in the Persian Gulf.





[Confidential.]

below
No. 2416, dated Bushire, the 14th (received 22nd) October 1906.
From—MAJOR P. Z. COX, C.I.E., Political Resident in the Persian Gulf,
To—SIR LOUIS DANK, K.C.I.E., C.S.I. Secretary to the Government of India in
the Foreign Department, Simla.

I have the honour to invite a reference to the correspondence ending with
Foreign Department Endorsement No.
No. 380 of 30th September 1906. 3183-E.B., dated 31st July 1906, on the
subject of a distinctive flag for Koweit, and to forward a copy of the Political
Agent's report of what has since passed between himself and Sheikh Mubarak on
the subject.

2. In view of the fact that once to me personally, and again in the presence
of Major Knox and myself, as reported in
(1) Resident to Foreign, No. 337, dated 16th July 1905. the communications marginally-noted,
(2) Resident to Foreign, No. 620, dated 18th March 1906 (accompaniment). Sheikh Mubarak approved the pattern and
expressed his readiness to fly it, it is an-
noying to learn that he hesitates to adopt it now, though he has agreed to issue
the articles which bear a coloured picture of the same flag.

At an ordinary time Major Knox would no doubt have suggested to the
Sheikh that after the trouble gone to in the matter the Resident and Government
would find it difficult to understand his going back on his undertaking, but it is
so important at the present moment that the atmosphere between him and the
Political Agent should remain clear, that as far as the latter personally was con-
cerned it was perhaps as well that he left the matter where he did for the time
being, instead of pursuing the subject.

3. There can be little doubt that Sheikh Mubarak's specific object in acting
as he has, is that surmised by Major Knox in paragraph 5 of his letter, and I
venture to hope that the Government of India will be pleased to recommend
His Majesty's Secretary of State to authorise the accord of some measure of
guarantee in connection with the use of the flag, on the lines suggested.

No. 380, datad Koweit, the 30th September 1906.
From—CAPTAIN S. G. KNOX, I.A., Political Agent, Koweit,
To—MAJOR P. Z. COX, C.I.E., Political Resident in the Persian Gulf.

I have the honour to inform you that, at an interview I had with Sheikh
Mubarak at the Agency on the 29th instant, I showed him the books and flags
forwarded under cover of your No. 2130, dated 14th September 1906.

2. Sheikh Mubarak at once agreed to the issue of the ships' articles but
demurred to the use of the flag which he said was sure to get him into trouble
with the Turkish authorities at Basrah.

I suggested that it might be possible to fly the flag in the Persian Gulf and
Indian waters and to avoid using it in the Shatt-el-Arab, but the Sheikh replied
that the Turks would be sure to hear of it and would retaliate by oppressive
measures not on the boat that flew the flag but on all Koweit boats indiscrimi-
nately.

4. In the absence of instructions, I did not feel justified in expressing
surprise at his failing to keep his promise made to you to use the flag. Sheikh
Mubarak did not show any marked aversion to the new flag but he cited the

* Foreign Department endorsement No. 49-E.B., dated 31st January 1906.
† Resident to Foreign Department No. 87, dated 12th February 1905.
P. Z. C. cases of Abdul Aziz bin Salim bin Badar,*
and of the Agent of the Firm of Shubaili
who, he said, were still languishing in
prison at Konia†, asking what offence
they had committed and receiving no reply. He also mentioned a case of which
I had not heard previously when an Agent of Sheikh Mubarak was enlisted and
taken to El Hassa and eventually bought a substitute to replace himself. The



39

2

case seems to have been running for some two years and the Turkish authorities were probably acting legally under the conscription or the matter would have been mentioned before.

5. It was obvious that the inference I was intended to draw was that the Sheikh, though far too polite to say so, felt no confidence in our ability or willingness to protect him or his friends outside Koweit against Turkish intrigues and tyranny. He said that the Belgian trouble was nothing compared to the Turkish. In another discussion, he said that he did not care what went on in Koweit itself, as he could always give an explanation that would satisfy the Turkish authorities, that what went on outside was what troubled him.

With reference to the arms clause in the book, he remarked that the Turkish authorities refused to allow any boat to carry more than three rifles for self protection, a number that in the Shatt-el-Arab was quite inadequate.

6. It is, I venture to think, probable that Sheikh Mubarak would willingly adopt the flag, provided he received a guarantee that "His Majesty's Government would see that the Sheikh does not suffer for following the advice given to him" and I am sure that such a guarantee would improve our relations with the Sheikh to a marked degree.



S 1910-500 3-6

Confidential

No. 233 of 1907.

BRITISH RESIDENCY AND CONSULATE-GENERAL:

Bushire, the 27th January 1907.

Subject:-

Distinctive flag for
Koweit dhows.

A copy of the accompanying communication is forwarded with compliments to the Political Agent, Koweit, for information, with reference to this office endorsements Nos. 2417 and 2472 dated 14th and 25th October 1906, respectively.

page 35

File 3311
page 22

By order,

H. B. Wood

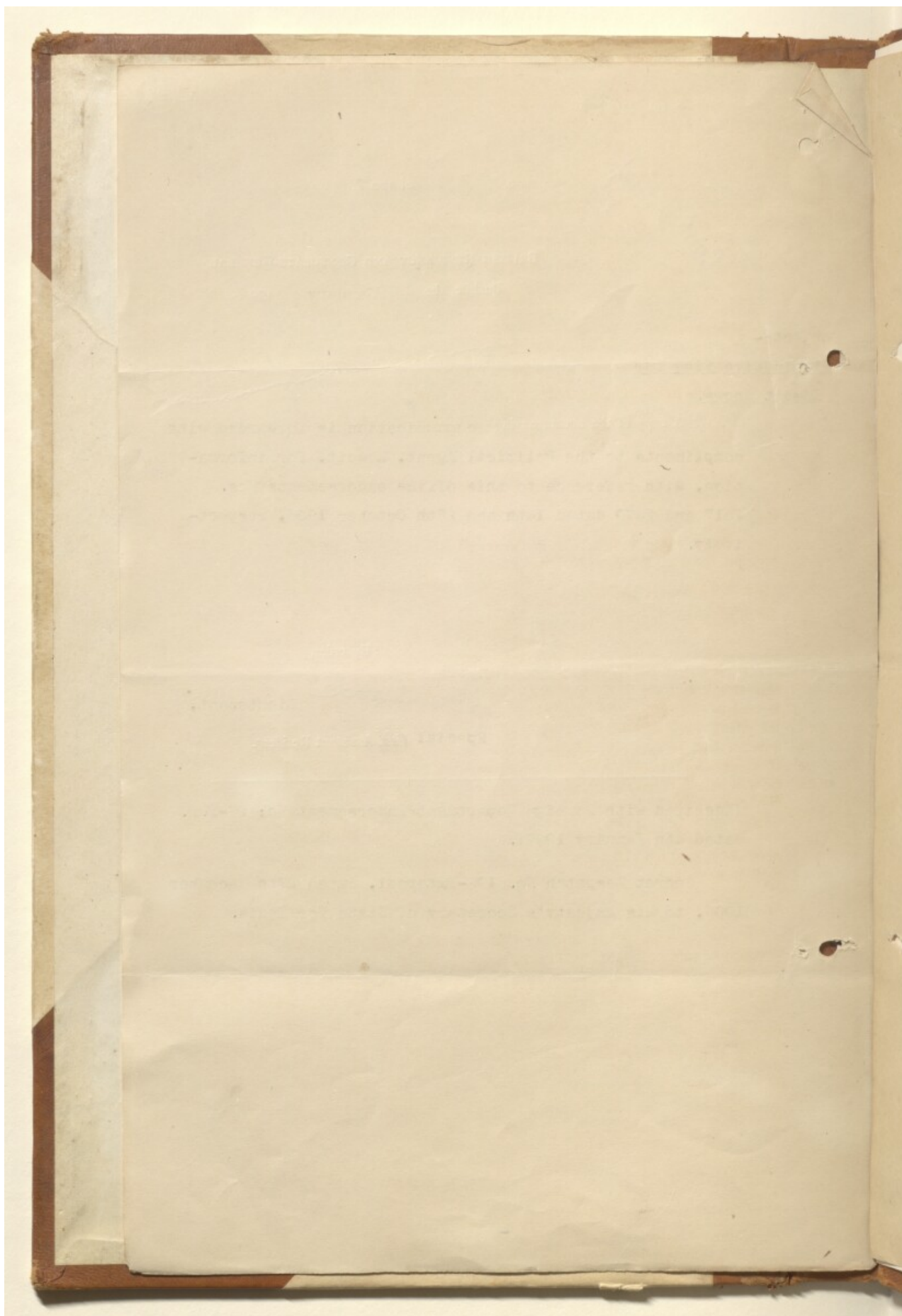
Lieutenant,

Special Assistant Resident.

(Received with Foreign Department Endorsement No: 25-E.B. dated 4th January 1907).

Secret Despatch No. 125-External, dated 27th December 1906, to His Majesty's Secretary of State for India.

page 41





No. 193 OF 1906.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

FOREIGN DEPARTMENT.

SECRET.

External.

To

THE RIGHT HON'BLE JOHN MORLEY, O.M.,

His Majesty's Secretary of State for India.

FORT WILLIAM, the 27th December 1906.

SIR,

We have the honour to refer to the correspondence ending with your telegram, dated the 13th June 1906, regarding the adoption by the Sheikh of Koweit of a distinctive flag for his shipping, and to forward a copy of the marginally-noted letters from the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf on the subject.

- (1) No. 2516, dated the 14th October 1906, with enclosures.
(2) No. 2478, dated the 21st October 1906.

2. It is clear from Captain Knox's report, dated the 30th September 1906, that Sheikh Mubarak is not disposed to adopt the distinctive flag unless he is fortified by an assurance that he will not be permitted to suffer from following the advice given him in this connection by the Political Agent. The grant of such an assurance might, however, involve us in responsibilities of a somewhat extended character, since the opportunities which the Turks enjoy of inflicting injury on the Sheikh and his subjects are by no means confined to Koweit territory, in respect of which we are already pledged to defend him. We note, however, that it was recognised* by Sir N. O'Connor, whose views were apparently accepted by His Majesty's Government, that in the event of the Sheikh's accepting our advice, it was incumbent on His Majesty's Government to see that he did not suffer from the consequences in so far as they depended on the action of the Turkish Government.

3. The position is not devoid of difficulty owing to the suspicions entertained of our intentions by the Turkish Government, but if the Embassy at Constantinople believe that some means can be found of securing the Koweitis against injury at the hands of the Turkish officials at Basrah and other Turkish ports, we venture to suggest, for the consideration of His Majesty's Government, that the recognition of this obligation might now unobjectionably be conveyed to Sheikh Mubarak, more especially as from Major Cox's letter of the 21st October 1906 it appears that the Central Turkish Customs have gone so far as to insist on treating Koweit and even Bahrein as ports of the Turkish Empire,

* Vide his letter to Sir Edward Grey, No. 358, dated the 23rd May 1906.



42.
2

and it may be desirable to take some steps to controvert this action. If, however, His Majesty's Government are not prepared to give such a guarantee, we propose to direct Captain Knox to take no further steps in the matter.

We have the honour to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient, humble servants,

(Signed) MINTO.

" KITCHENER.

" DENZIL IBBETSON.

" H. ERLE RICHARDS.

" J. P. HEWETT.

" E. N. BAKER.

" H. ADAMSON.



S 1910-500 3-16

(30) (35)
43

Confidential.

No. 588 of 1907.

BRITISH RESIDENCY AND CONSULATE-GENERAL

Bushire, the 17th March 1907.

Subject:-

Distinctive Flag for Koweit.

A copy of the accompanying communication is forwarded with compliments to the Political Agent, Koweit, for information in continuation of this office No: 255 dated 27th January 1907.

page 40

By order,

Birdwood

Lieutenant,

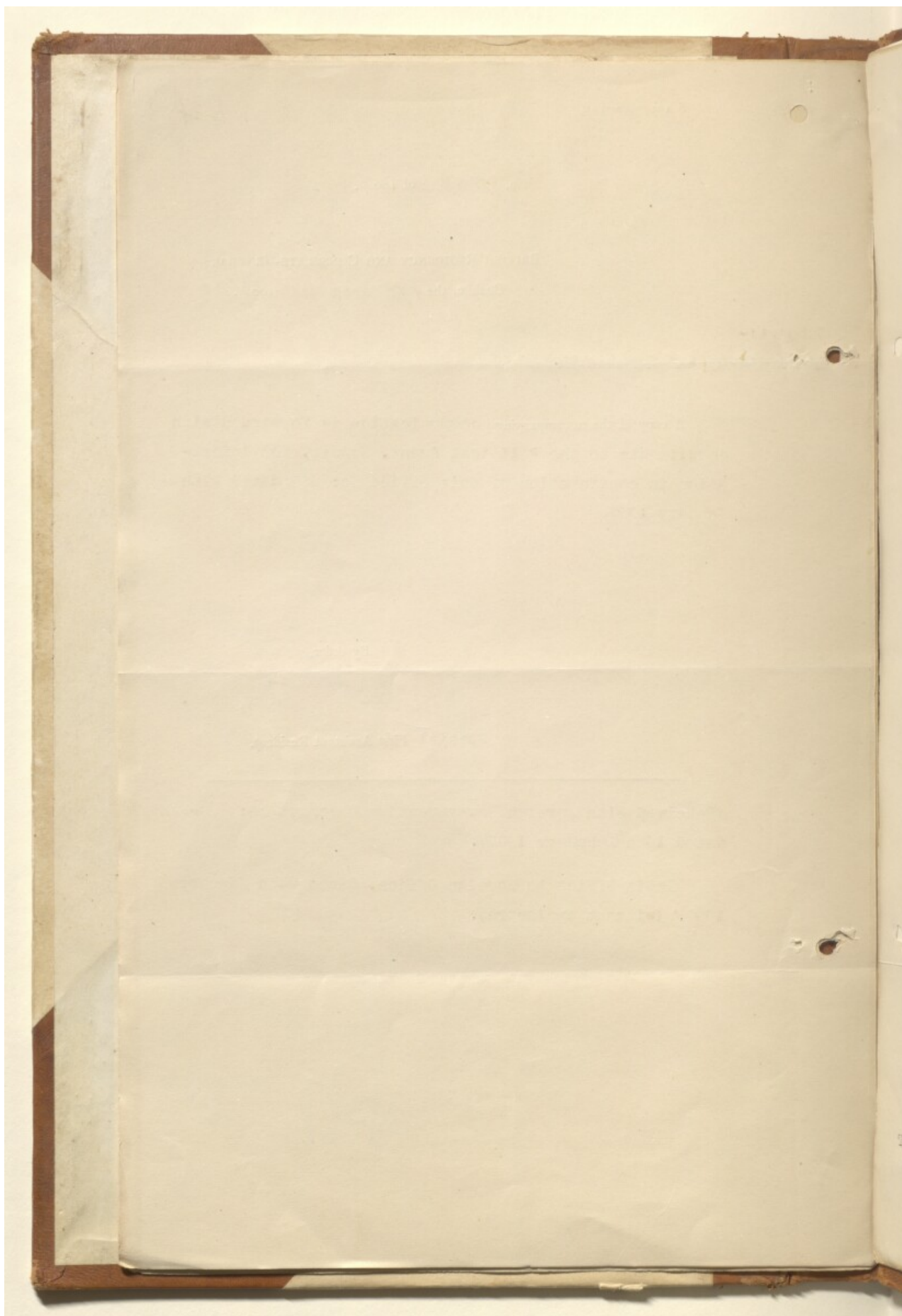
Special First Assistant Resident.

(Received with Foreign Department Endorsement No: 590-E/B dated 18th February 1907).

India Office to Foreign Office, dated 24th January 1907. (without enclosure).

below page 44

22/3/17.





Recd. on 11-2-07 with Pol. Secy's
Letter, No: 4 dated 25-1-1907.

(3) (36)
44

India Office,
24th January 1907.

Sir,

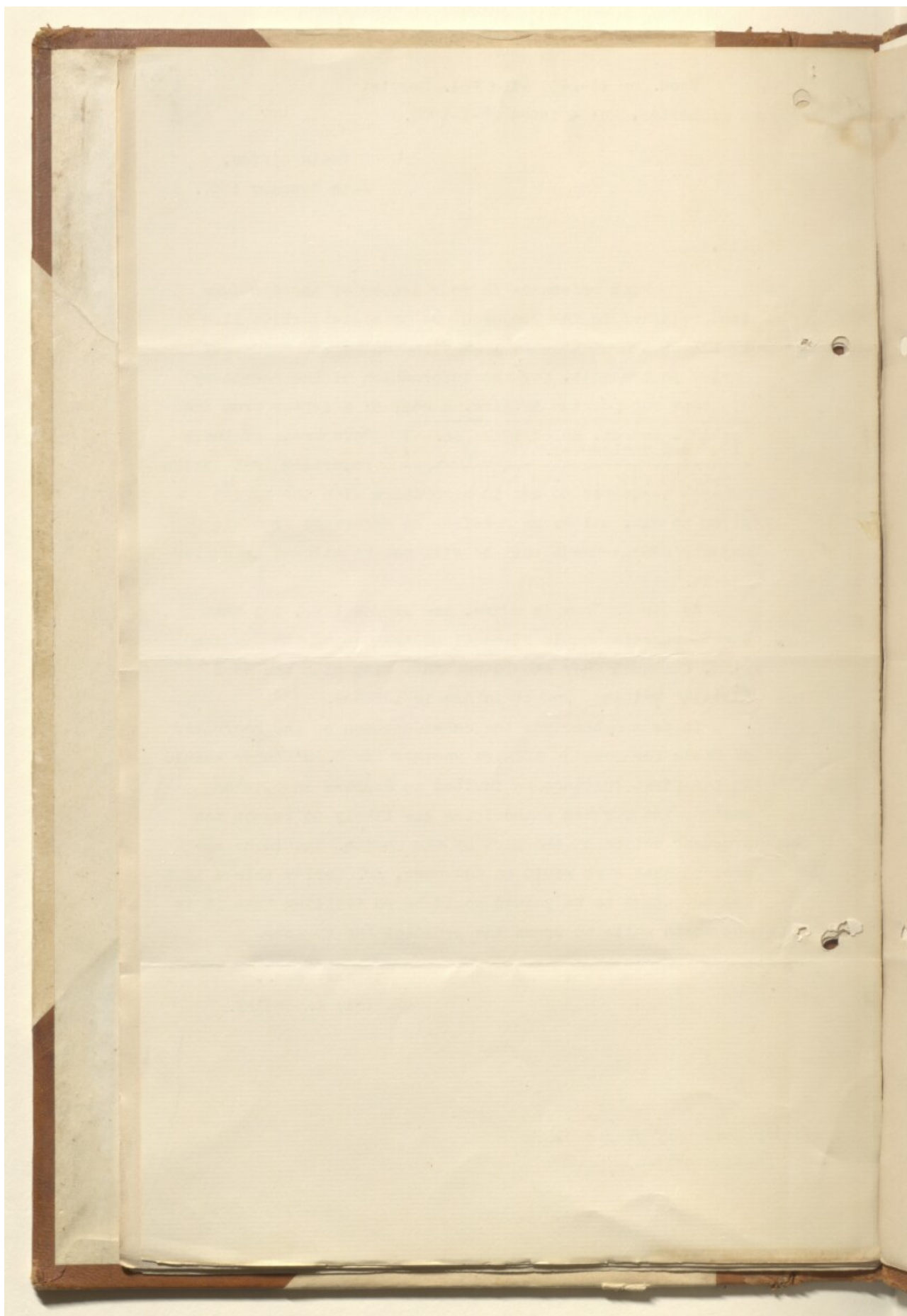
With reference to your letter of the 5th June last relative to the proposed use of a distinctive flag by the Sheikh of Koweit, I am directed by Mr. Secretary Morley to transmit, for the information of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, a copy of a letter from the Government of India No: 123, Secret. dated 27th Dec. 1906 and enclosures. *no copy* *file* reporting that Sheikh Muharek hesitates to act in accordance with the advice given to him, unless he receives an assurance from His Majesty's Government that he will not be allowed to suffer for it.

As Sir E. Grey is aware, the proposal is, not that Koweit vessels should discontinue the use of the Turkish flag, but that they should use that flag with the word "Koweit" written upon it in Arabic letters.

It is a matter for the consideration of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs whether Sir M. O'Connor should in the first instance be invited to express an opinion whether the Turkish authorities are likely to resent the proposed action on the part of the Sheikh. Should he apprehend that such would be the case, Mr. Morley thinks that the advantage to be gained would be so trifling that it is not worth while to press the proposal any further.

I have etc.,
(sd) A. Godley.

The Under Secretary of State,
Foreign Office.





S 1910-500 3-c6

Confidential

No. *966* of 1907.

BRITISH RESIDENCY AND CONSULATE-GENERAL:

Bushire, the *7th* May 1907.

A copy of the accompanying communication is forwarded
with compliments to Political Agent Koweit for informa-
tion ^{*only*} with reference to this office endorsement No. 588
dated 17th March 1907.

By order,

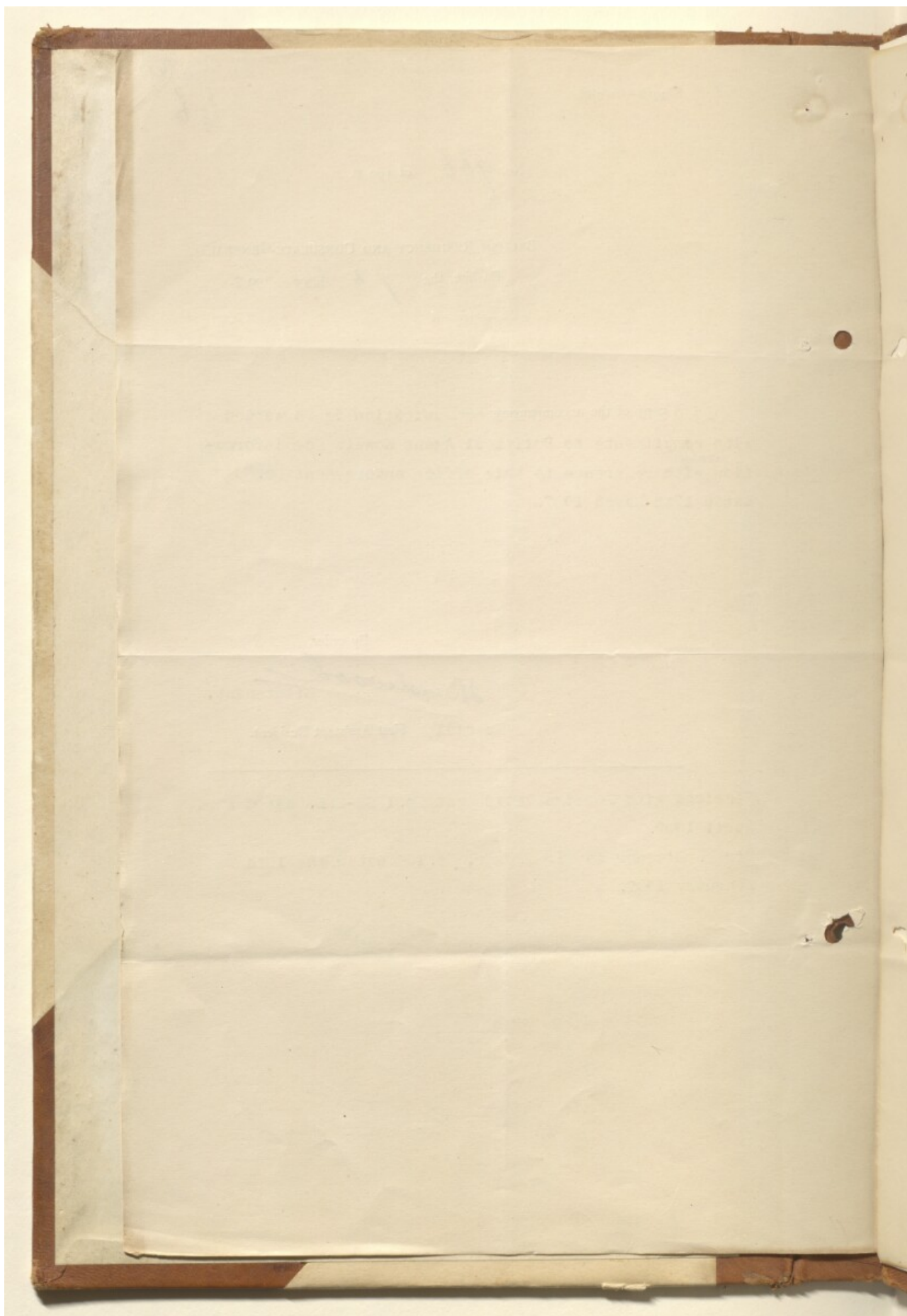
L Birdwood
Lieutenant,

Special First Assistant Resident.

(Received with Foreign Department No. 1586-E.E. dated 23rd
April 1907.)

Sir M. O'Connor to Sir E. Grey, No. 105 dated the 18th
February 1907.

below page 46





(Copy)

Recd. on 7-4-7 with Pol. Secy's
Letter No. 12 dated 22-3-1907.

ASIATIC TURKISH
CONFIDENTIAL

(February 26).

Section 1.

(S. 75)

No. 1.

Sir H. O'Connor to Sir Edward Grey. -- (Received February 26)
(No. 105)

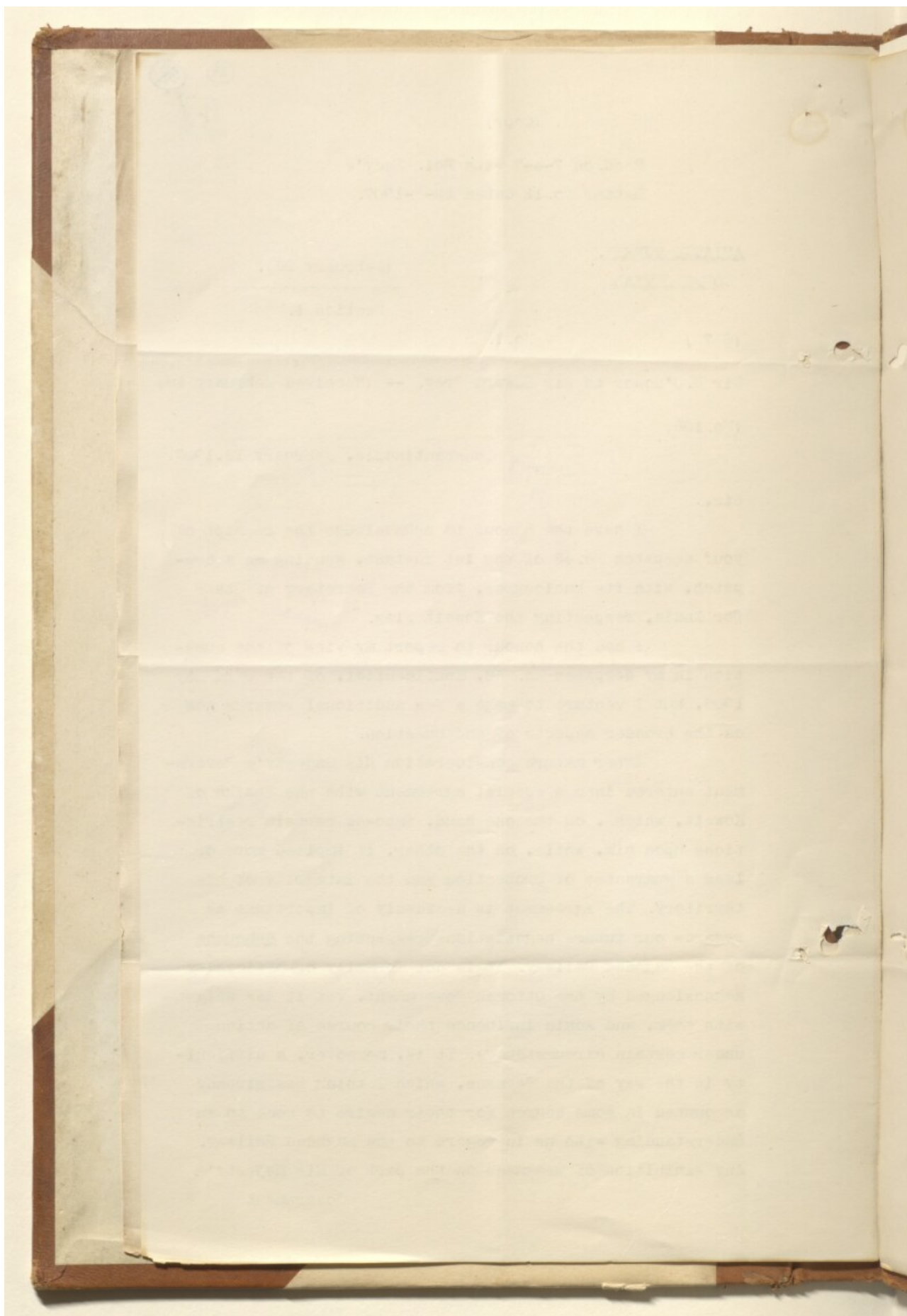
copy Constantinople, February 18, 1907.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of
your despatch No. 45 of the 1st instant, sending me a des-
patch, with its enclosures, from the Secretary of State
for India, respecting the Koweit Flag.

I had the honour to report my view of the ques-
tion in my despatch No. 353, Confidential, of the 23rd May
1906, but I venture to make a few additional remarks now
on the broader aspects of the question.

After mature consideration His Majesty's Govern-
ment entered into a special agreement with the Shaikh of
Koweit, which, on the one hand, imposed certain restric-
tions upon him, while, on the other, it implied more or
less a guarantee of protection and the integrity of his
territory. The agreement is decidedly of importance as
regards our future negotiations respecting the débouché
of the Baghdad Railway. It is not formally or officially
acknowledged by the Ottoman Government, yet it has weight
with them, and would influence their course of action
under certain circumstances. It is, moreover, a difficul-
ty in the way of the Germans, which I think has already
accounted in some degree for their desire to come to an
understanding with us in regard to the Baghdad Railway.
Any exhibition of weakness on the part of His Majesty's
Government.





40 39
47
Government, or of a desire to shirk the consequence of our agreement with Koweit, would materially affect our position, which is a political factor in the situation which, I venture to think, His Majesty's Government ought not lightly to ignore.

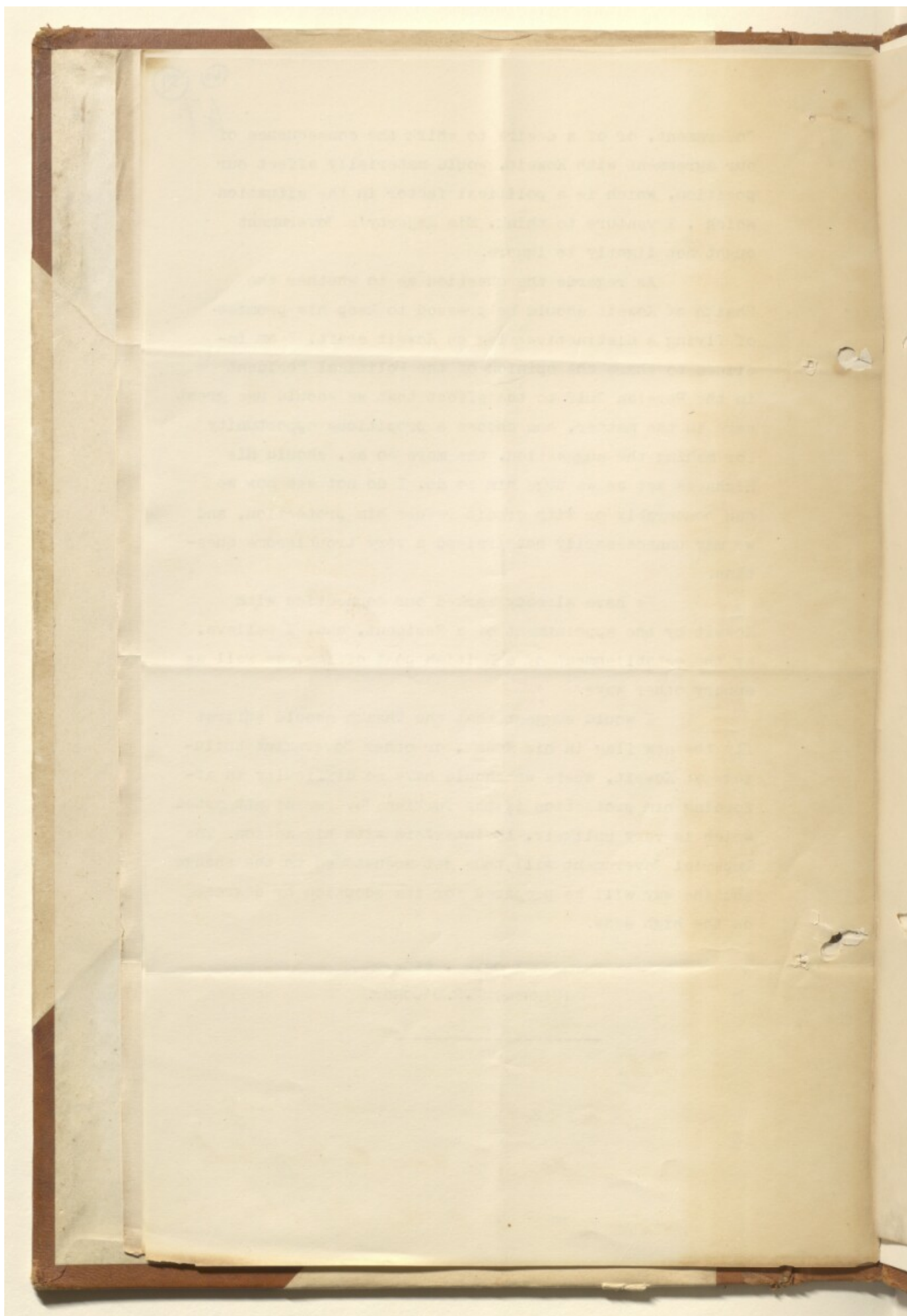
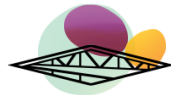
As regards the question as to whether the Shaikh of Koweit should be pressed to keep his promise of flying a distinctive flag on Koweit craft, I am inclined to share the opinion of the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf to the effect that we should use great care in the matter, and choose a propitious opportunity for making the suggestion, the more so as, should His Highness act as we urge him to do, I do not see how we can honourably or with credit refuse him protection, and we may unnecessarily have raised a very troublesome question.

We have already marked our connection with Koweit by the appointment of a Resident, and, I believe, by the establishment of a British post office, as well as sundry other ways.

I would suggest that the Shaikh should at first fly the new flag in his Konak, or other Government buildings at Koweit, where we should have no difficulty in affording him protection if the Turkish Government attempted which is very unlikely, to interfere with his action. The Imperial Government will thus get accustomed to the change and the way will be prepared for its adoption by degrees on the high seas.

I have, etc.

(Signed) H.R. O'Connor.





OFFICE NOTE.

W.C. In going through the p.p. re a
Flag for Kuwait, the earliest
paper on the file is Resdlt's interview
with the Sheikh on 7th March 56,
when the question had evidently
been thrashed out - & was settled.

Have we any earlier papers on the
subject?

The flags I presumed are those in
the Instruments cupboard in my office?

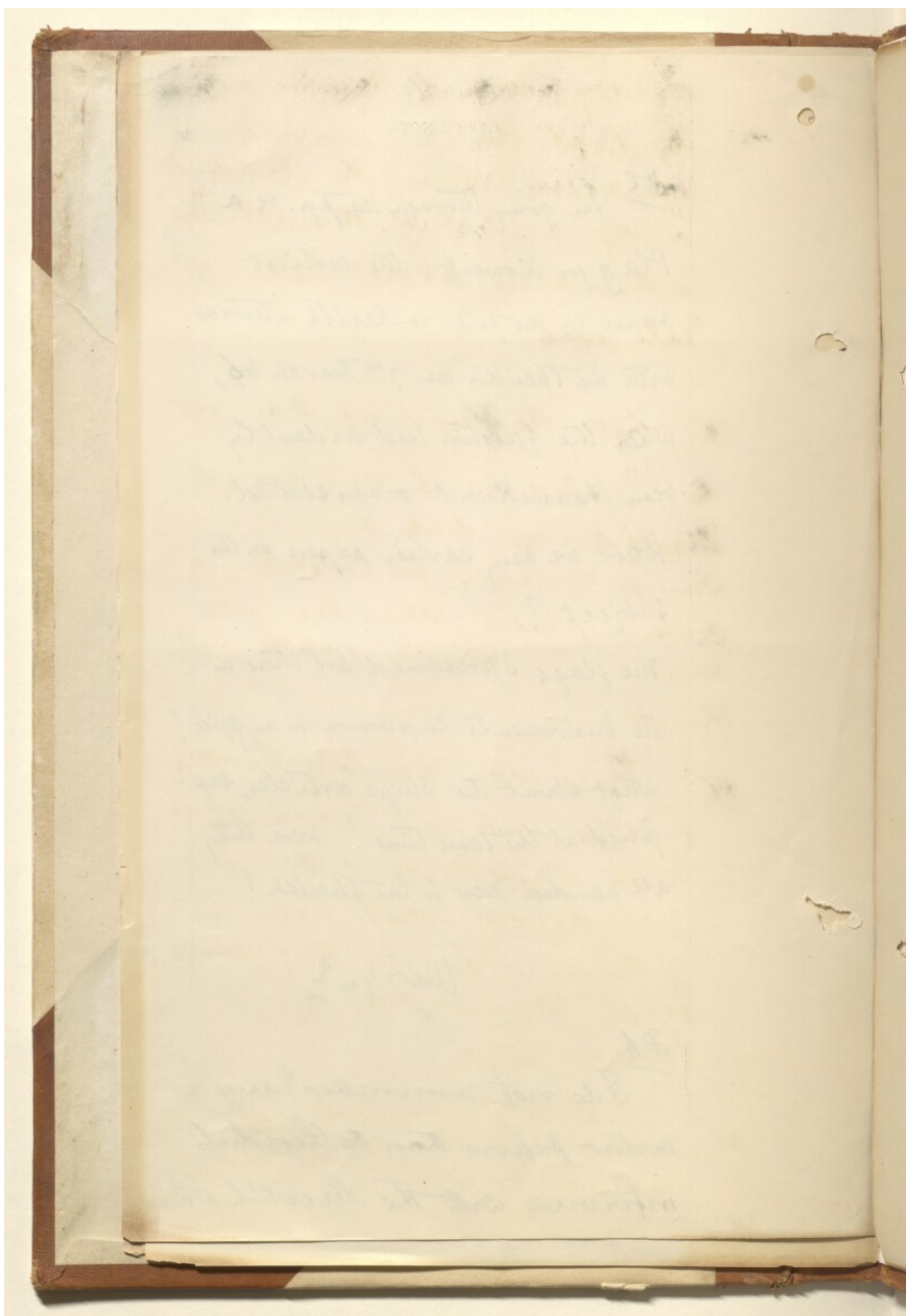
What about the Ship's articles, sup-
-plied at the same time? Were they
all handed over to the Sheikh?

W.C. 12th 56

P.A.

I do not remember any
earlier papers than the Resident's
interview with the Sheikh which

S 741-11,000-1: -08





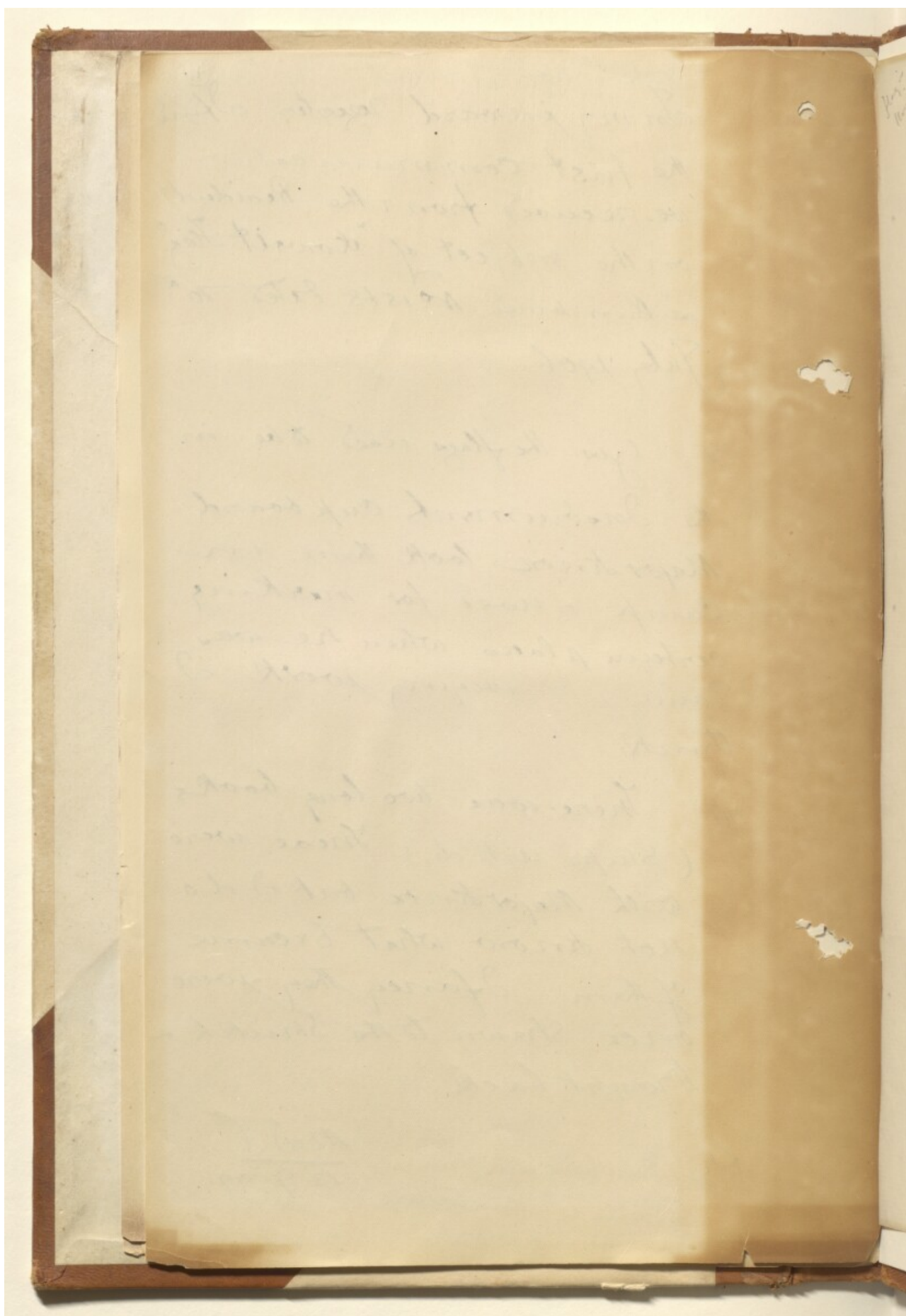
note I had failed. (42) (44)
In my inward register, I find
the first communication
we received from the Resident
on the subject of "Kuwait Flag"
^{was} ~~to~~ Numbered No. 1568, dated 10th
July 1906. page 16

II Yes, the flags used to be in
the Instruments cupboard.
Major Knox took them in
Camp & used for marking
certain places when he was
doing surveying work. I
think.

III There were two long books
(Ships' articles). These were
with Major Knox but I do
not know what became
of them. I fancy they were
once shown to the Sheikh &
brought back.

Note: Must have been given
to Sheikh as nowhere traceable
WY 13th 09.

Ma F
13. 9. 09.





Confidential

Bushire, Persian Gulf.

6-12-14.

My dear Grey,

Sir Percy Cox has asked me to send you the following message, which I have paraphrased. Please ascertain from Shaikh Mobarak whether he would prefer to fly henceforward the British flag or plain red flag. Do this without appearing to act under instructions. Please also let me have your views and let me know what is the result of your approaching Shaikh of Kuwait. Message ends. It is numbered 846 of 5th December.

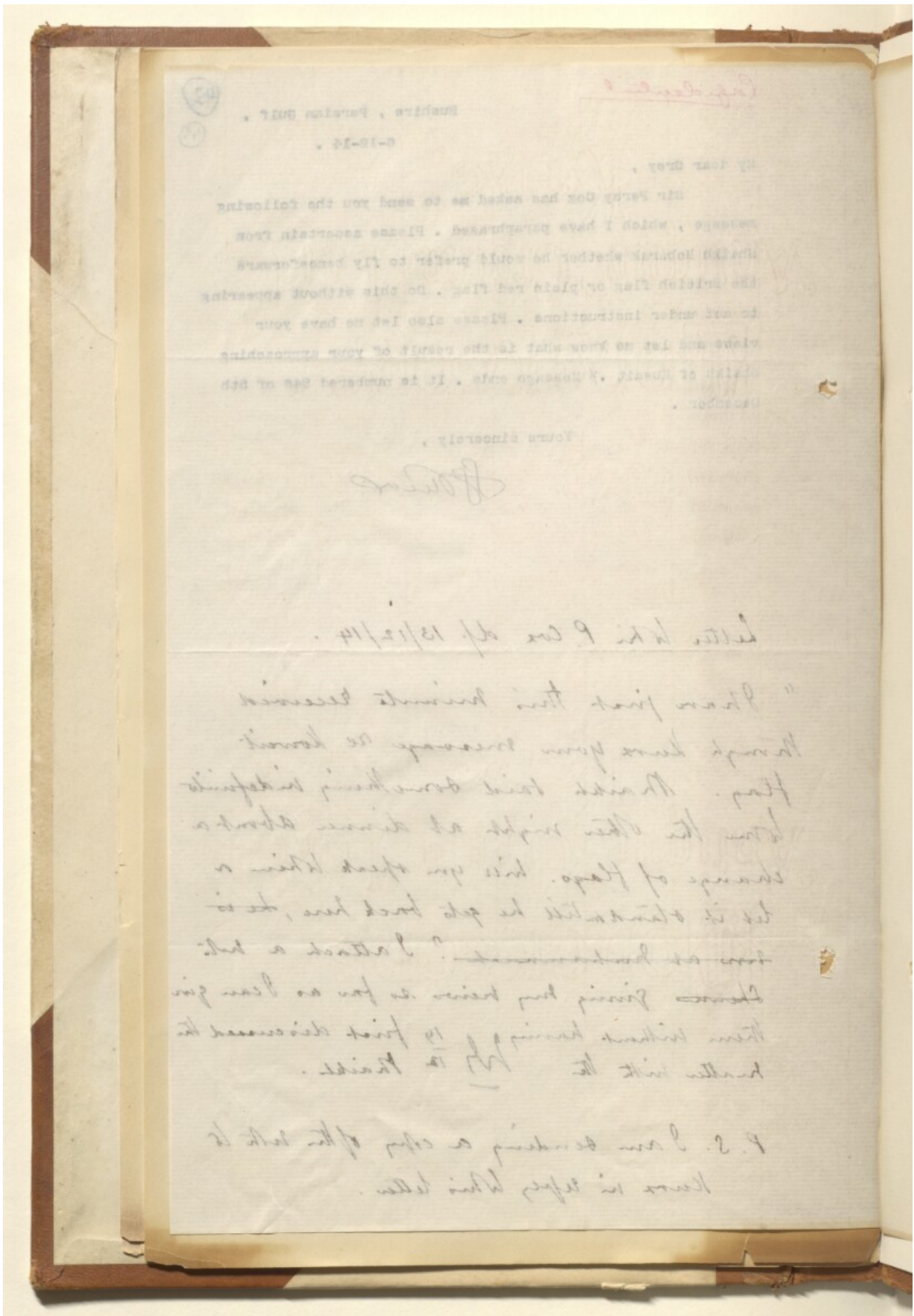
Yours sincerely,

J. M. G.

Letter W. H. P. Cox d/d. 13/12/14.

"I have just this minute received through Knox your message re Kuwait flag. Shaikh said something indefinite some the other night at dinner about a change of flags. Will you speak to him or let it stand until he gets back here, he is now at Imbambani? I attach a note showing my views so far as I can give them without having first discussed the matter with the Shaikh.

P. S. I am sending a copy of the note to Knox in reply to his letter.





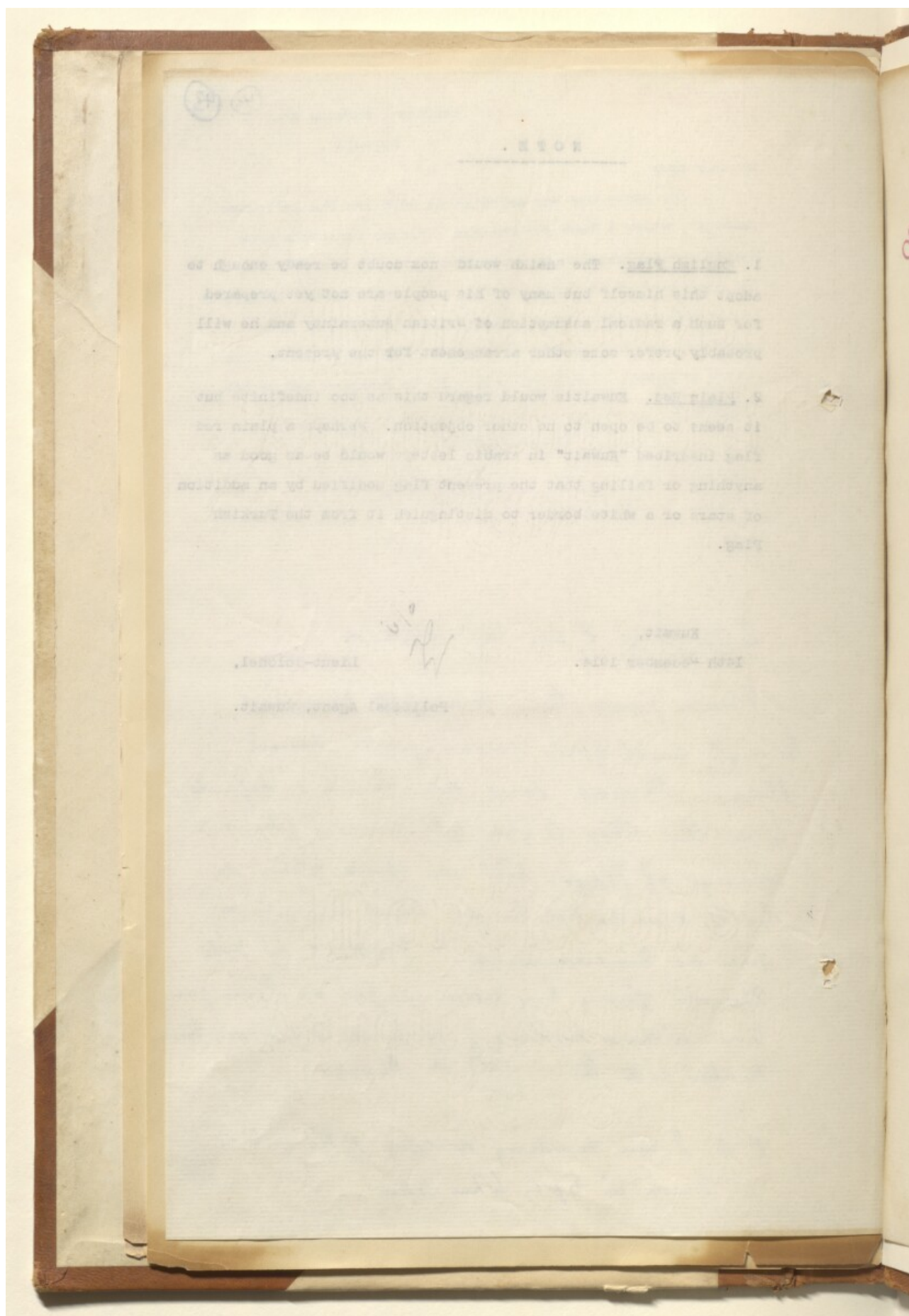
NOTE .

1. English Flag. The Shaikh would not doubt be ready enough to adopt this himself but many of his people are not yet prepared for such a radical assumption of British suzerainty and he will probably prefer some other arrangement for the present.
2. Plain Red. Kuwaitis would regard this as too indefinite but it seems to be open to no other objection. Perhaps a plain red flag inscribed "Kuwait" in Arabic letters would be as good as anything or failing that the present flag modified by an addition of stars or a white border to distinguish it from the Turkish Flag.

Kuwait,
14th December 1914.

W^d/c.

Lieut-Colonel,
Political Agent, Kuwait.





CONFIDENTIAL

No. 654 of 1914.

Political Agency,
Kuwait.

From

Lieutenant-Colonel W. G. Grey, I.A.,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

To

The Political Resident in the
Persian Gulf, Bushire.

Dated Kuwait, the 18th December 1914.

Sir,

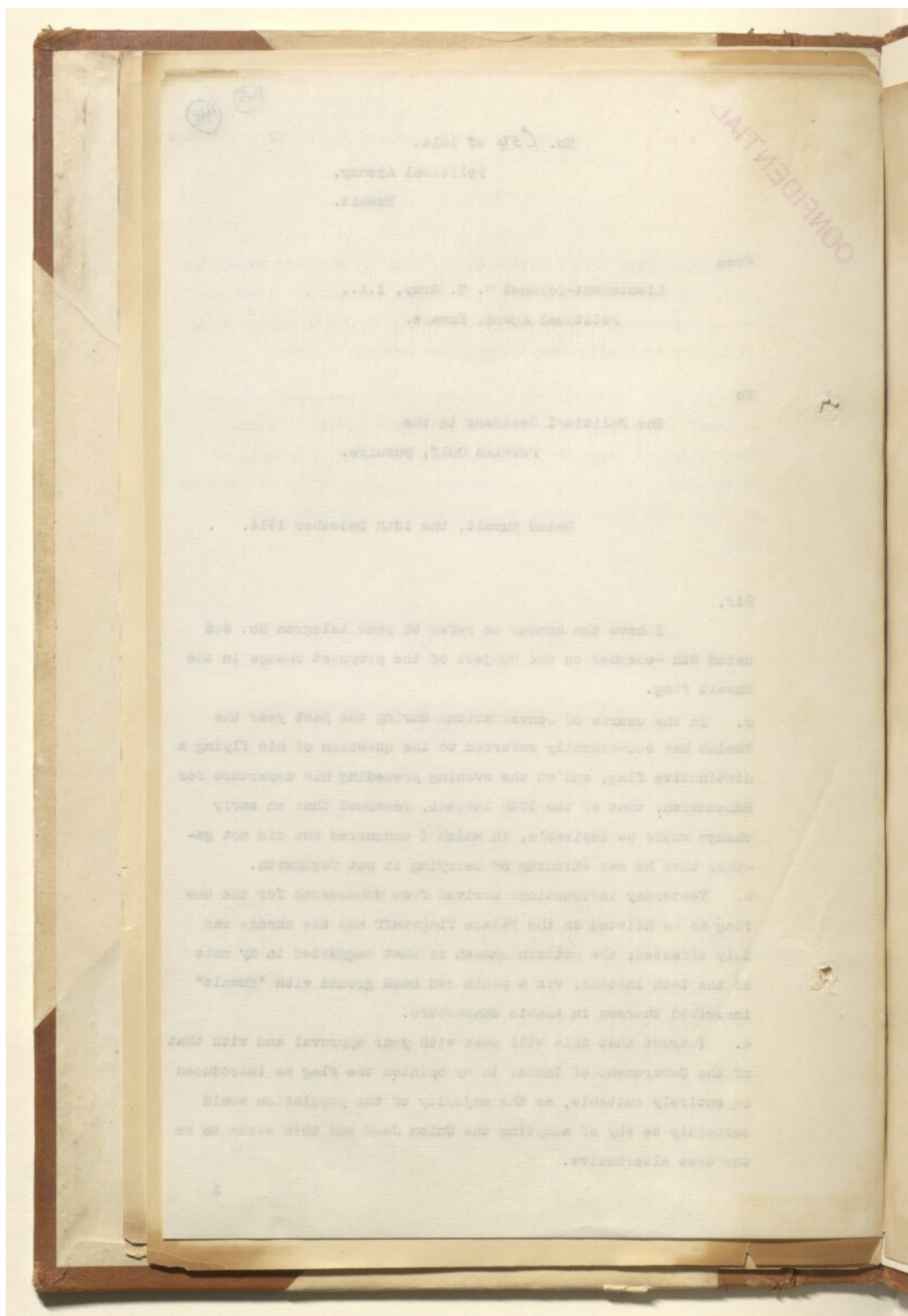
I have the honour to refer to your telegram No. 846 dated 5th December on the subject of the proposed change in the Kuwait flag.

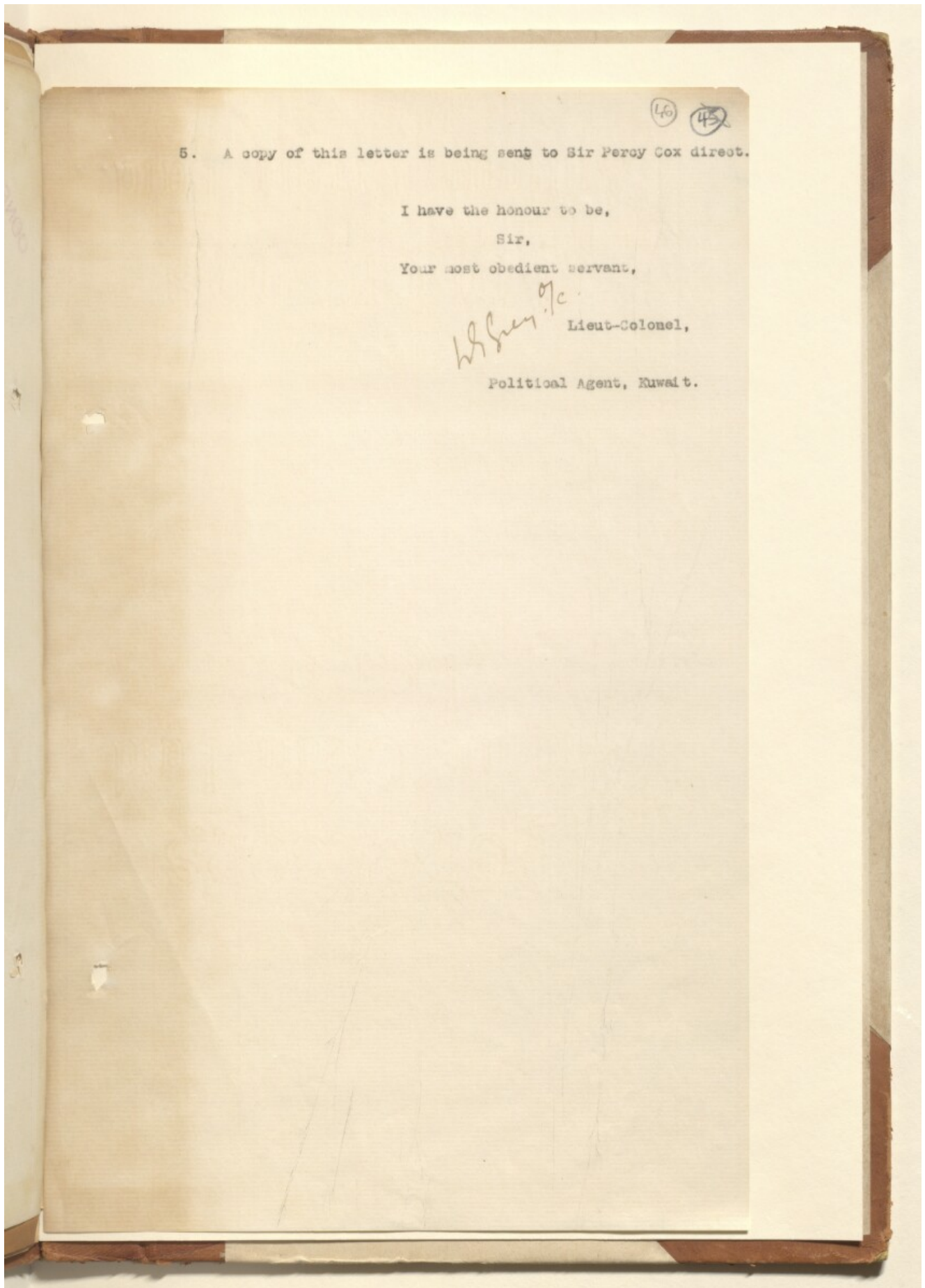
2. In the course of conversations during the past year the Shaikh has occasionally referred to the question of his flying a distinctive flag, and on the evening preceding his departure for Muhammerah, that of the 10th instant, remarked that an early change would be desirable, in which I concurred but did not gather that he was thinking of carrying it out forthwith.

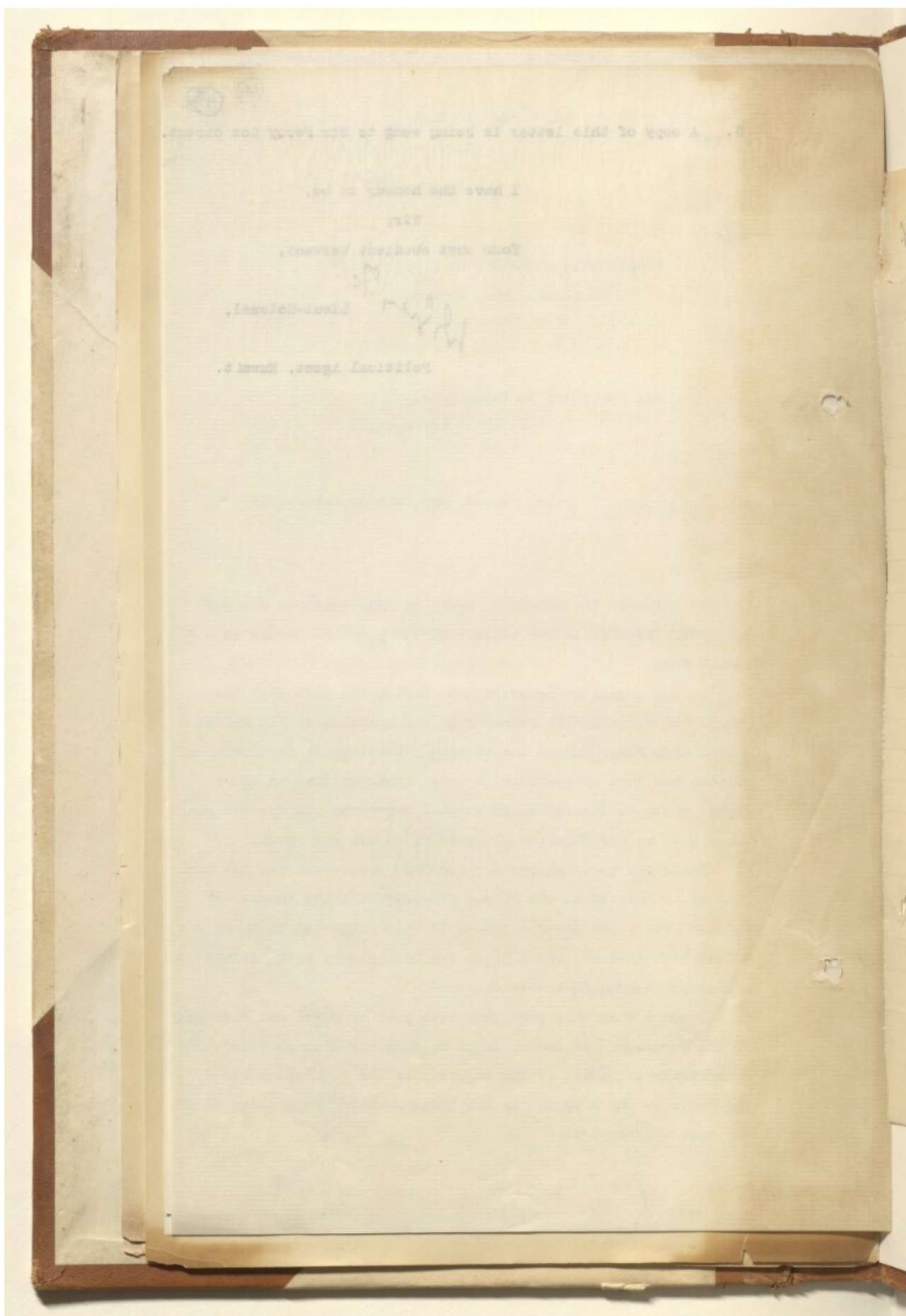
3. Yesterday instructions arrived from Muhammerah for the new flag to be hoisted on the Palace flagstaff and the change was duly effected; the pattern chosen is that suggested in my note of the 14th instant, viz a plain red back ground with "Kuwait" inscribed thereon in Arabic characters.

4. I trust that this will meet with your approval and with that of the Government of India: in my opinion the flag as introduced is entirely suitable, as the majority of the population would certainly be shy of adopting the Union Jack and this seems to be the best alternative.

A









Jan

Copy

Basrah

Dec 21st 1914

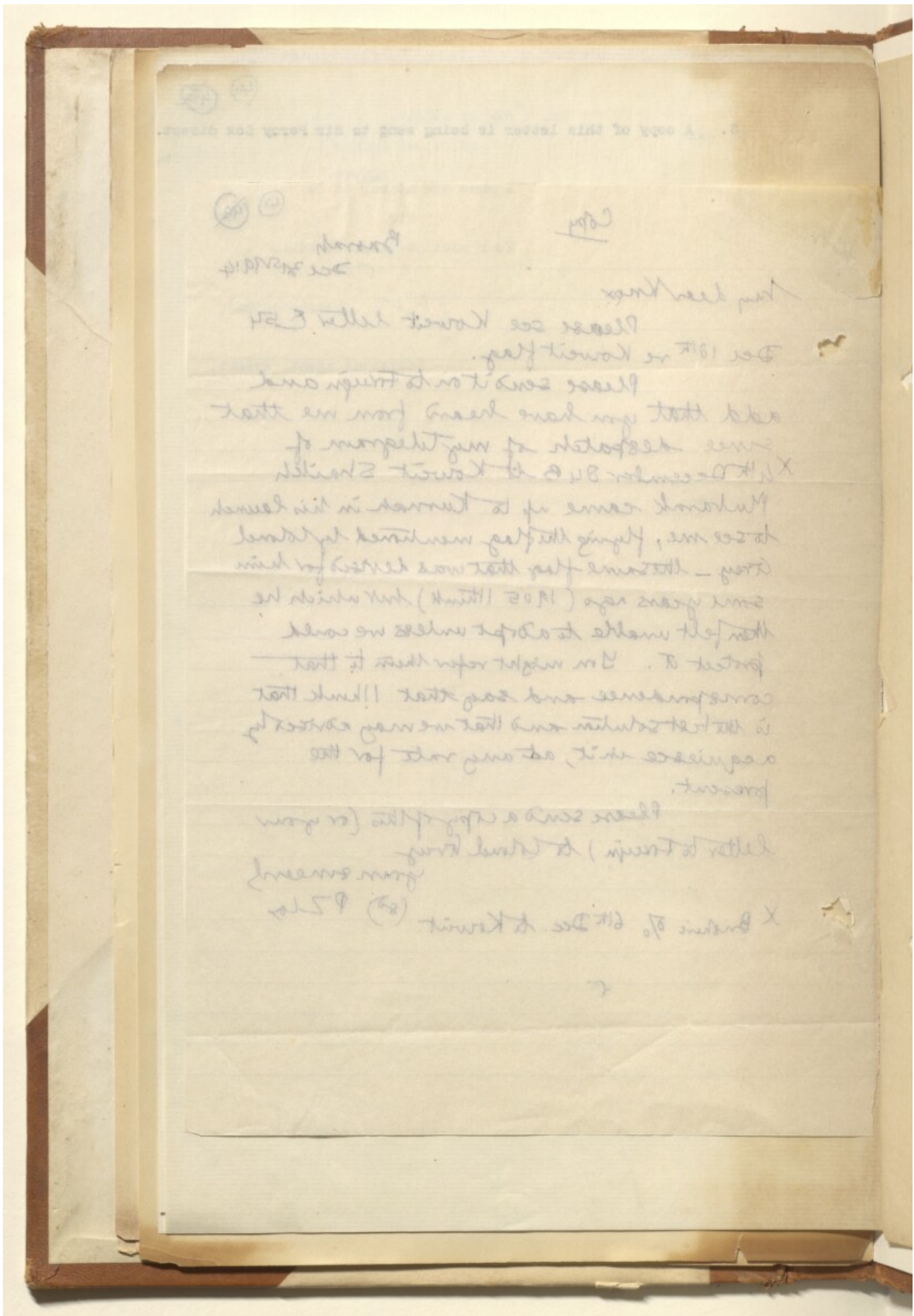
My dear Knox

Please see Koweit letter E 54
Dec 18th re Koweit flag.

Please send it on to Foreign and
add that you have heard from me that
since despatch of my telegram of
X 4th December 84 B to Koweit Shailah
Mubarak came up to Kurnah in his launch
to see me, flying the flag mentioned by Colonel
Grey - the same flag that was devised for him
some years ago (1905 I think) but which he
then felt unable to adopt unless we could
protect it. You might refer them to that
correspondence and say that I think that
is the best solution and that we may advisedly
acquiesce in it, at any rate for the
present.

Please send a copy of this (or your
letter to Foreign) to Colonel Grey
Yours sincerely

X Bushire 8/0 6th Dec. to Koweit. (80) PZL





No. 65-C.

CONFIDENTIAL.

Political Agency, Kuwait.

16th April 1921.

To

The Political Secretary to H.E. the High Commissioner,
B A G H D A D.

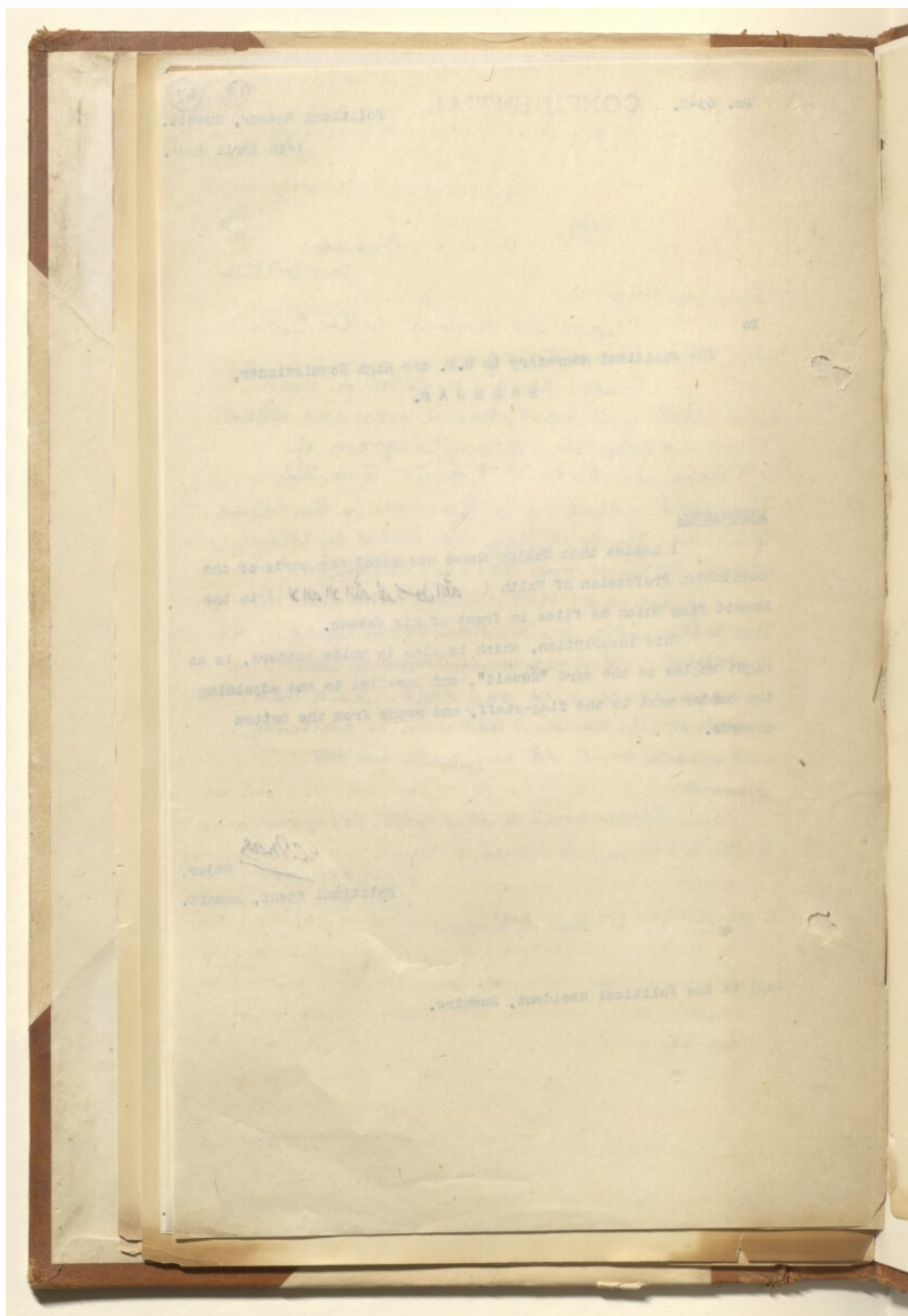
MEMORANDUM

I notice that Shaikh Ahmad has added the words of the Muhammadan Profession of Faith (لا اله الا الله محمد رسول الله) to the Kuwait Flag which he flies in front of his Palace.

This inscription, which is also in white letters, is at right angles to the word "Kuwait", and parallel to and adjoining the border next to the flag-staff, and reads from the bottom upwards.

A.C. Moss
Major,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

Copy to the Political Resident, Bushire.





confidential

(49) (48)

No. 196-S

Political Agency, Kuwait.

14th July 1924.

From
Major J.C. More, D.S.O.,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

To
The Hon'ble the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf
B U S H I R E.

Kuwait Flag.

Sir,

I have the honour to refer to letter No. G-54 dated the 18th December 1914 from Lieutenant Colonel W. G. Grey, then Political Agent, Kuwait, and connected correspondence on the subject of the adoption of a distinctive flag for Kuwait, as was originally suggested to the late Shaikh Mubarak as early as 1908.

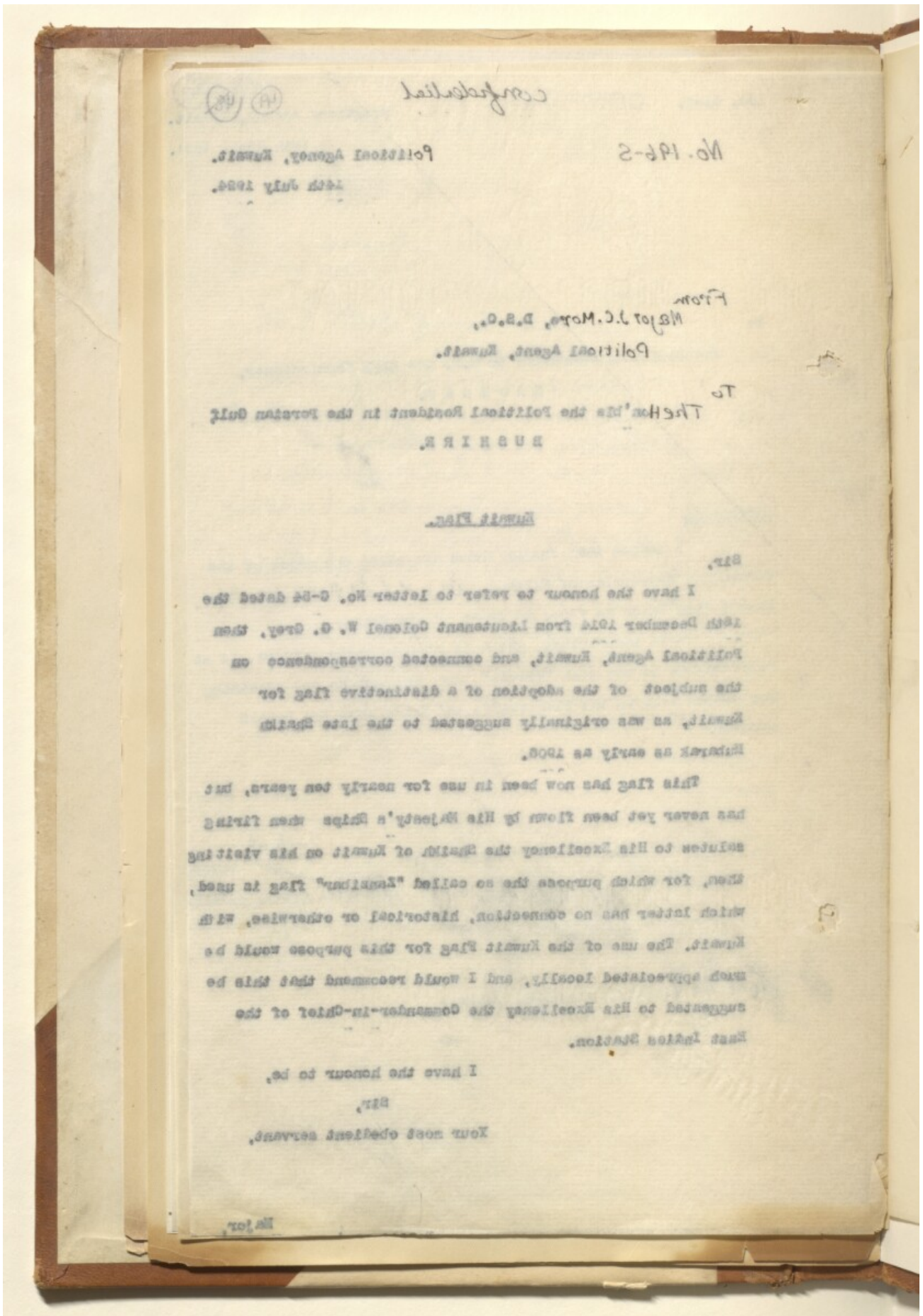
This flag has now been in use for nearly ten years, but has never yet been flown by His Majesty's Ships when firing salutes to His Excellency the Shaikh of Kuwait on his visiting them, for which purpose the so called "Zanzibar" flag is used, which latter has no connection, historical or otherwise, with Kuwait. The use of the Kuwait Flag for this purpose would be much appreciated locally, and I would recommend that this be suggested to His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief of the East Indies Station.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Major,





CONFIDENTIAL.

No. 440-S of 1924.

British Residency and Consulate-General,

Bushire, 3rd August 1924.



From

The Hon'ble Lieut-Col. F. B. Prideaux, C.S.I., C.I.E.,
Political Resident in the Persian Gulf.

To

The Foreign Secretary to the Government of India
in the Foreign and Political Department, SIMLA.

Kuwait Flag.

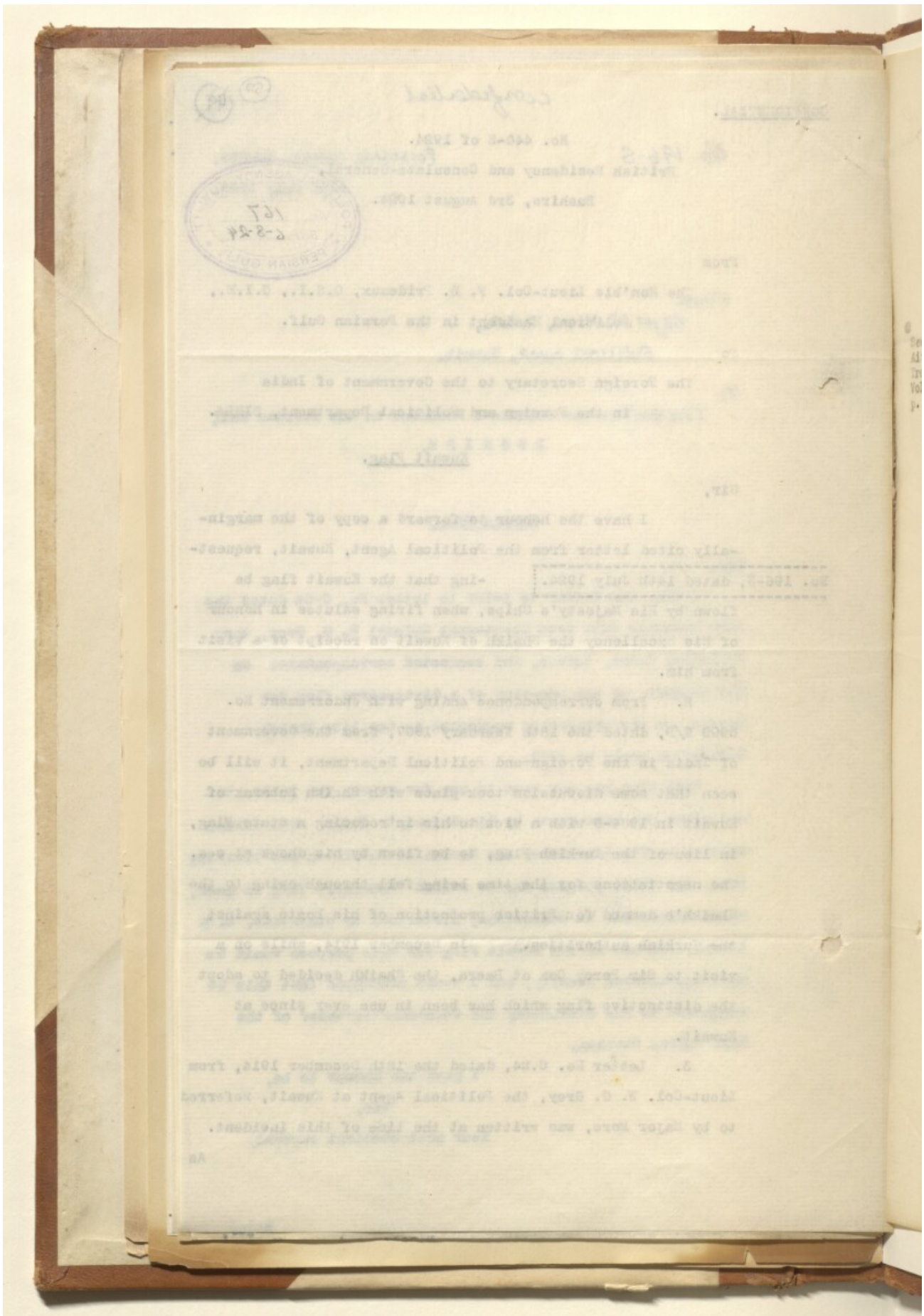
Sir,

I have the honour to forward a copy of the marginally cited letter from the Political Agent, Kuwait, request-
No. 196-S, dated 14th July 1924. -ing that the Kuwait flag be
flown by His Majesty's Ships, when firing salutes in honour
of His Excellency the Shaikh of Kuwait on receipt of a visit
from him.

2. From correspondence ending with endorsement No. 5999 E/B, dated the 18th February 1907, from the Government of India in the Foreign and Political Department, it will be seen that some discussion took place with Shaikh Mubarak of Kuwait in 1904-6 with a view to his introducing a State Flag, in lieu of the Turkish Flag, to be flown by his dhows at sea. The negotiations for the time being fell through owing to the Shaikh's demand for British protection of his boats against the Turkish authorities. In December 1914, while on a visit to Sir Percy Cox at Basra, the Shaikh decided to adopt the distinctive flag which has been in use ever since at Kuwait.

3. Letter No. C.54, dated the 18th December 1914, from Lieut-Col. W. G. Grey, the Political Agent at Kuwait, referred to by Major More, was written at the time of this incident.

As





2.

As I am unable to trace the reference under which the letter was forwarded to the Government of India, I enclose a copy now for their information.

4. I agree with Major More that the use by His Majesty's Ships of the Kuwait flag in place of the "Zanzibar" (rectius "Trucial Coast, 1820") flag, hitherto employed by them when saluting the Shaikh, would be much appreciated in Kuwait. I request therefore that the Government of India may be pleased to convey the suggestion to His Excellency the Commander in Chief of the East Indies Station.

See
Aitchison's
Treaties,
Vol. II,
p. 172.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

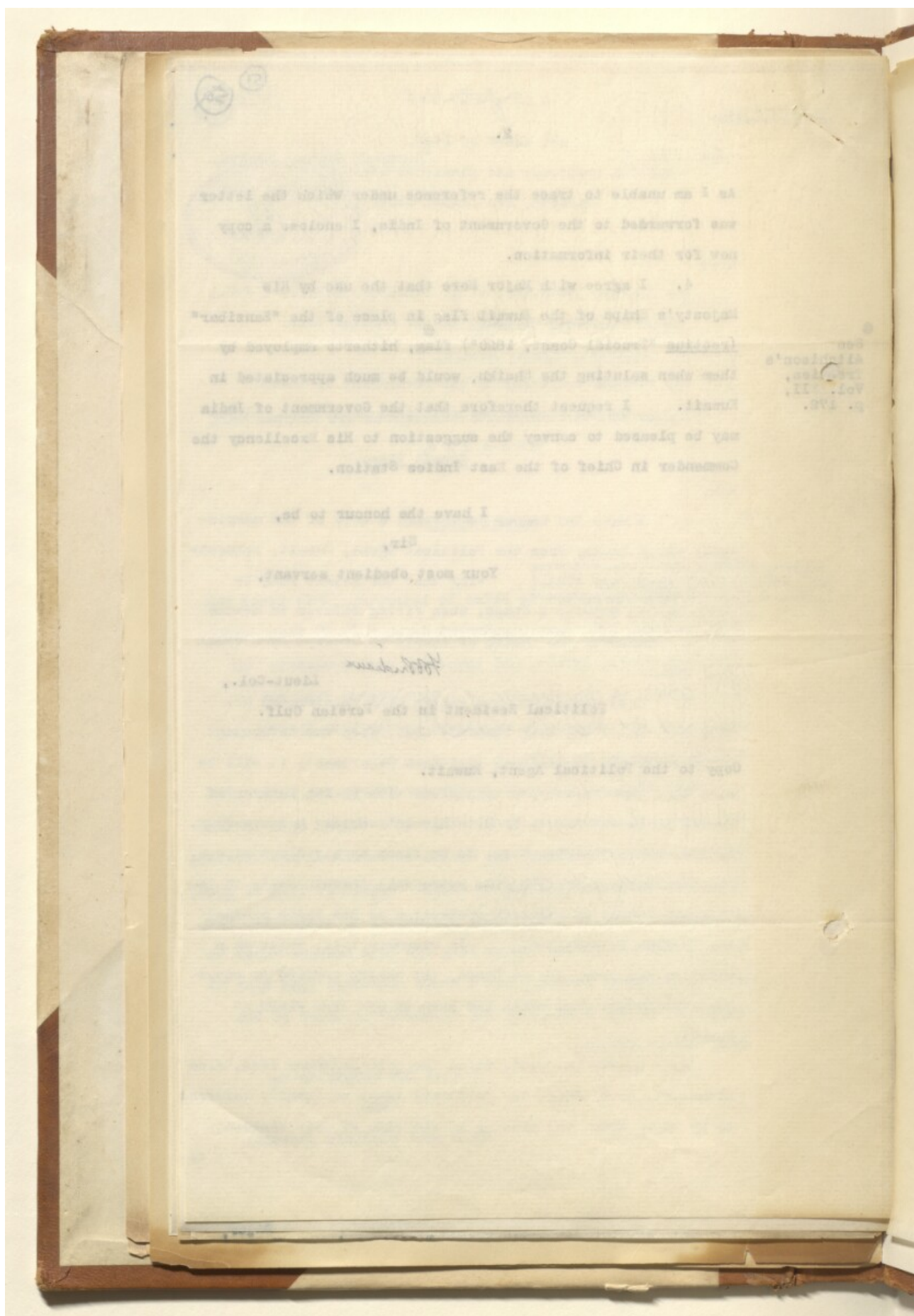
Your most obedient servant,

Y. B. B. B. B.

Lieut-Col.,

Political Resident in the Persian Gulf.

Copy to the Political Agent, Kuwait.





CONFIDENTIAL.

No. 610-B of 1924.

British Residency and Consulate-General,
Bushire, 3rd November 1924.

Copies of the undermentioned papers are forwarded
to

The Political Agent, Kuwait,
The Political Agent, Bahrain,
The Political Agent, Muscat,
The Commander, R.I.M.S. "ELPHINSTONE".

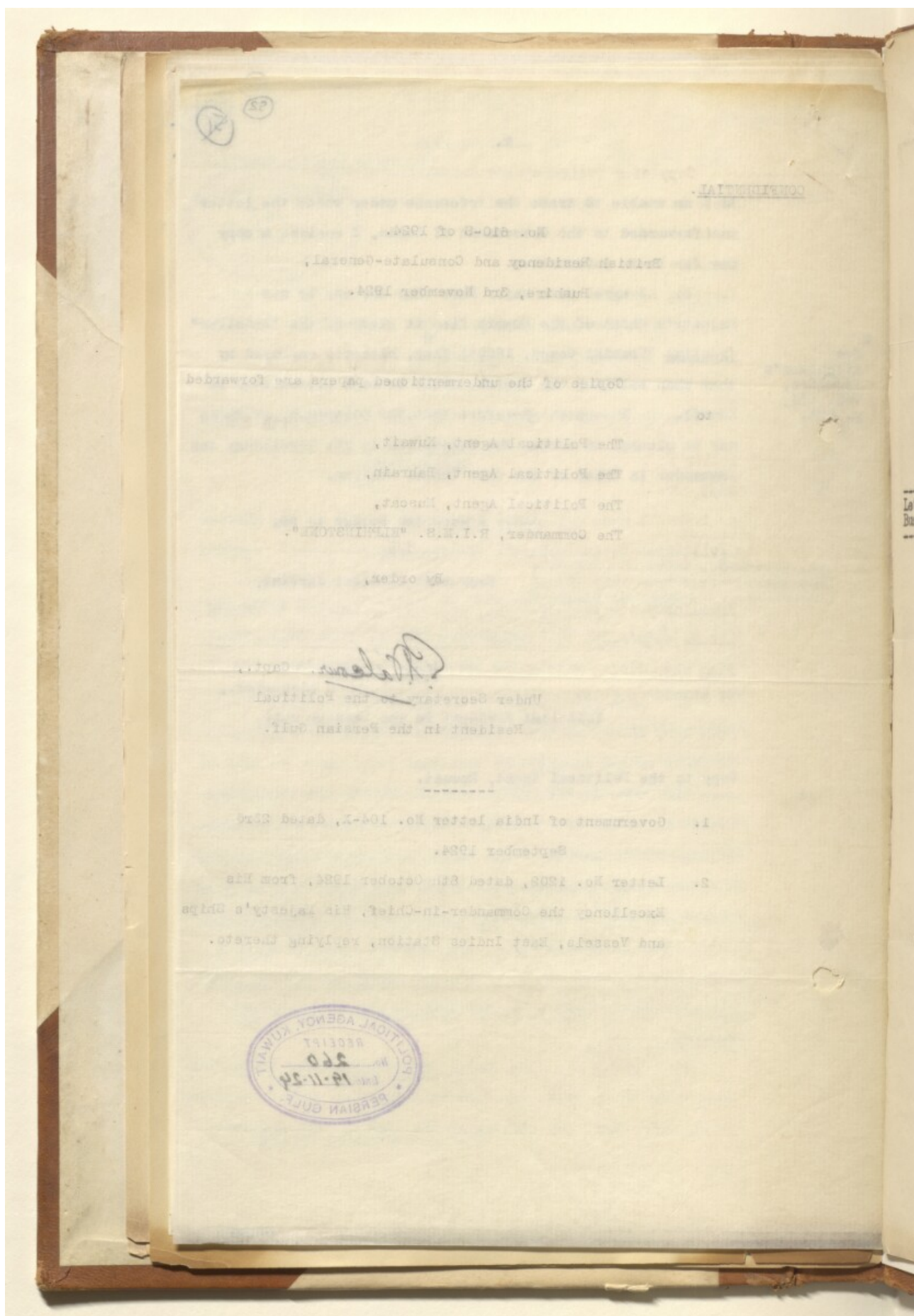
By order,

P. Waleour Capt.,

Under Secretary to the Political
Resident in the Persian Gulf.

-
1. Government of India letter No. 104-X, dated 23rd September 1924.
 2. Letter No. 1202, dated 8th October 1924, from His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, His Majesty's Ships and Vessels, East Indies Station, replying thereto.







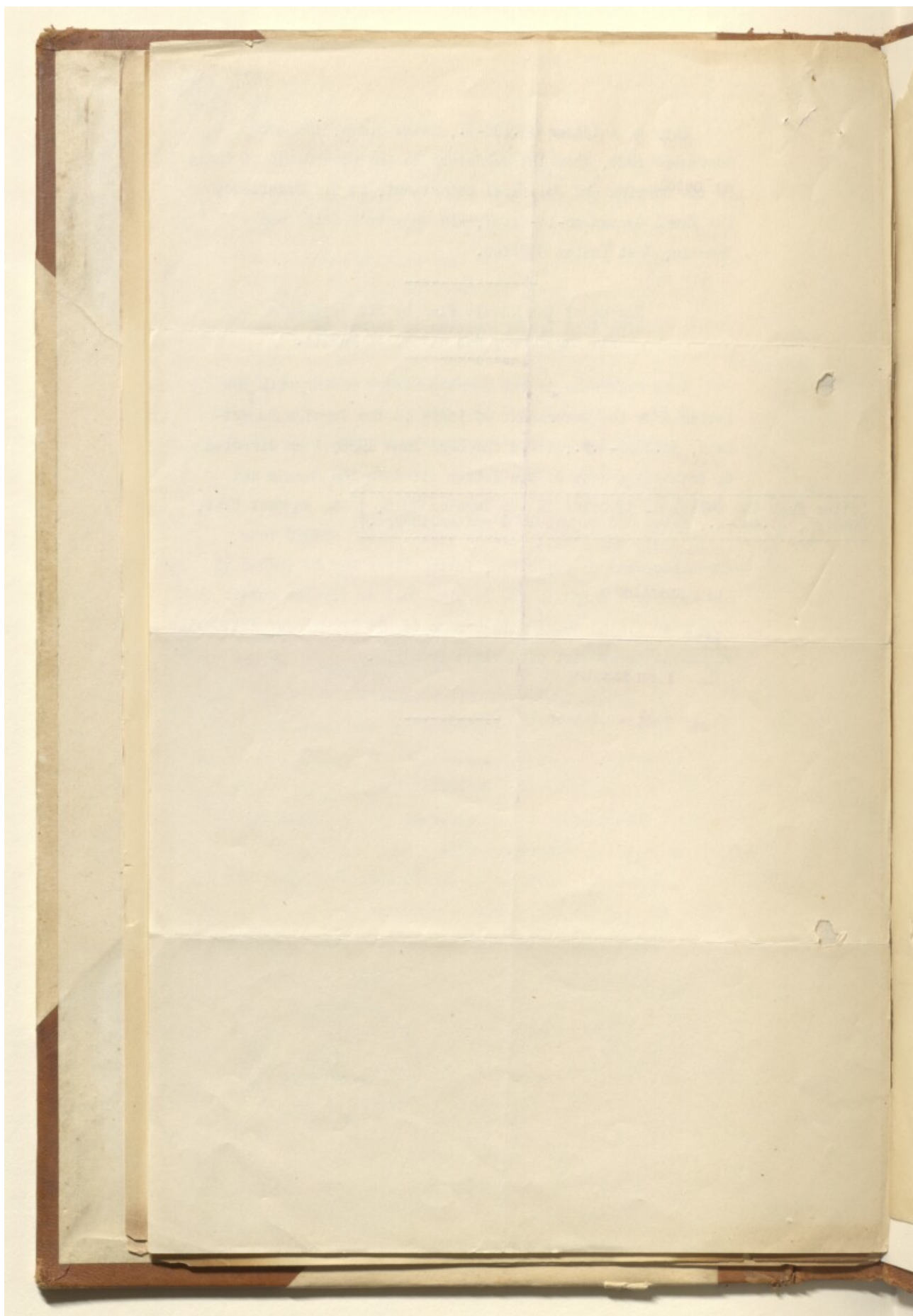
Copy of a letter No.104-X., dated Simla, the 23rd September 1924, from the Secretary to the Government of India in the Foreign and Political Department, to His Excellency the Naval Commander-in-Chief, His Majesty's Ships and Vessels, East Indies Station.

Flying of the Kuwait flag by His Majesty's Ships when firing salutes in honour of His Excellency the Shaikh of Kuwait.

With reference to the correspondence ending with the letter from the Government of India in the Foreign Department, No.2639-S.B., dated the 23rd June 1906, I am directed to transmit a copy of the letter cited in the margin and

Letter from the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf, Bushire, No.440-S., dated 3rd August 1924 and enclosure. | to suggest that, should Your

Excellency see no objection, instructions may be issued to His Majesty's Ships in the Persian Gulf to fly the Kuwait Flag when firing salutes in honour of His Excellency the Shaikh of Kuwait on receipt of a visit from him.



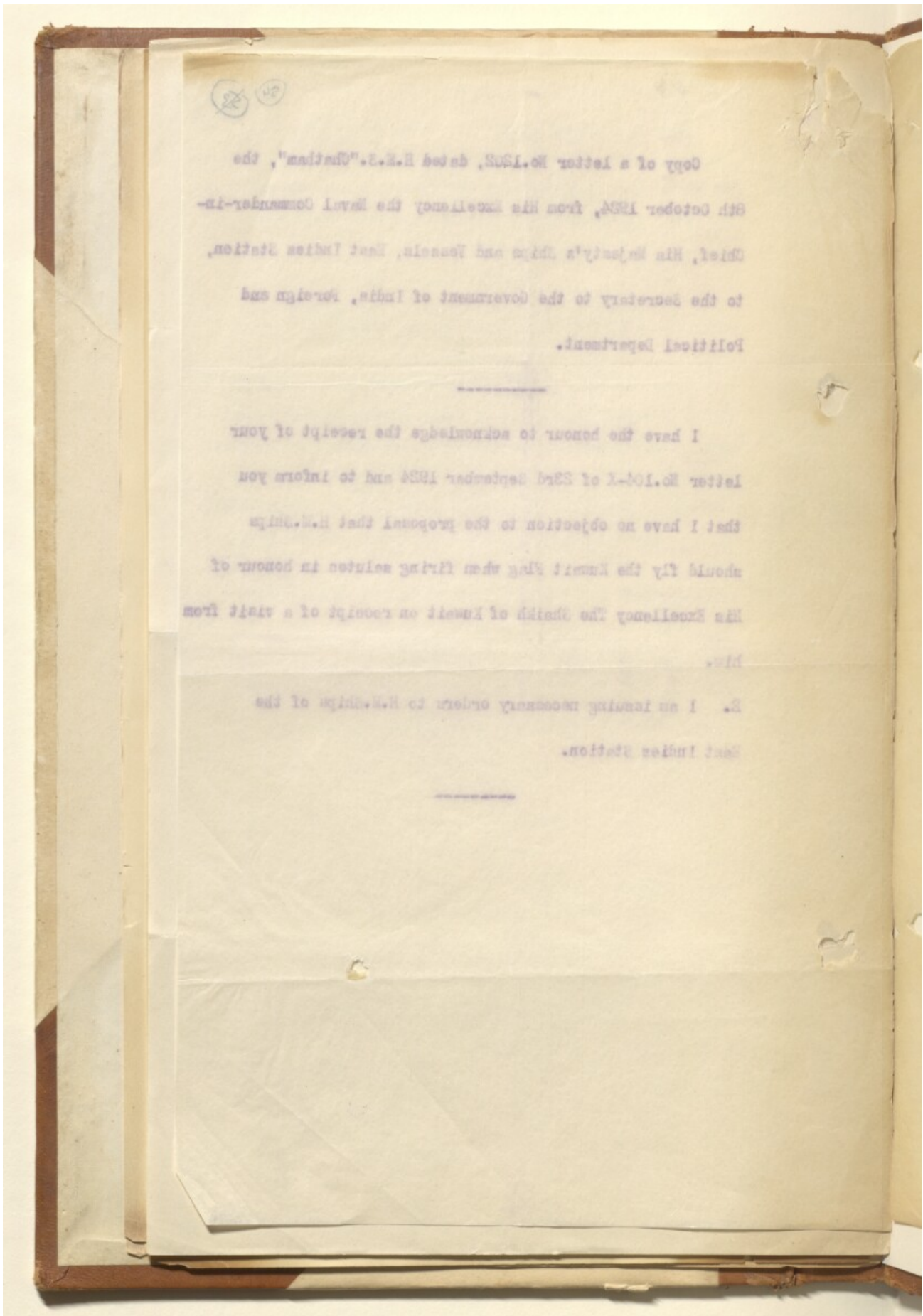


54 53

Copy of a letter No.1202, dated H.M.S."Chatham", the
6th October 1924, from His Excellency the Naval Commander-in-
Chief, His Majesty's Ships and Vessels, East Indies Station,
to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign and
Political Department.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your
letter No.104-X of 23rd September 1924 and to inform you
that I have no objection to the proposal that H.M.Ships
should fly the Kuwait Flag when firing salutes in honour of
His Excellency The Shaikh of Kuwait on receipt of a visit from
him.

2. I am issuing necessary orders to H.M.Ships of the
East Indies Station.





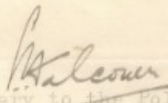
CONFIDENTIAL.

No. 643-S of 1924.

British Residency and Consulate-General,
Bushire, 24th November 1924.

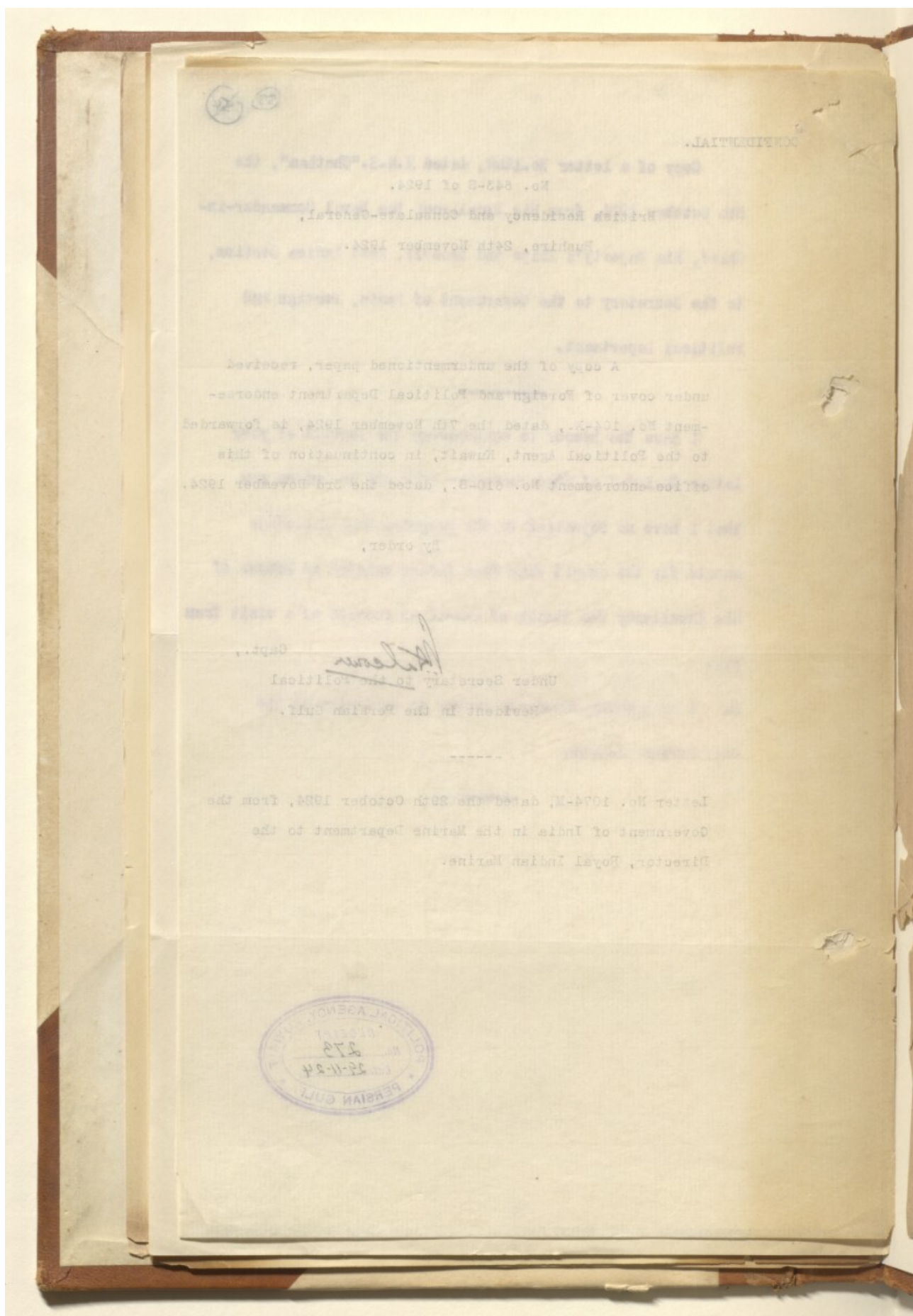
A copy of the undermentioned paper, received under cover of Foreign and Political Department endorsement No. 104-X., dated the 7th November 1924, is forwarded to the Political Agent, Kuwait, in continuation of this office endorsement No. 610-S., dated the 3rd November 1924.

By order,

 Capt.,
Under Secretary to the Political
Resident in the Persian Gulf.

Letter No. 1074-M, dated the 29th October 1924, from the Government of India in the Marine Department to the Director, Royal Indian Marine.







NS.10.

No.1074-M.

(56)

Government of India,
Marine
~~Finance~~ Department.

Mind, the 29th October 1924.

To

The Director, Royal Indian Marine.

FLYING OF THE KUWAIT FLAG BY
R.I.M. SHIPS WHEN FIRING SALUTES IN
HONOUR OF HIS EXCELLENCY THE SHAIKH
OF KUWAIT.

Sir,

I am directed to state that in consultation with His Excellency the Naval Commander-in-Chief, East Indies Station, it has been arranged that His Majesty's Ships in the Persian Gulf will fly the Kuwait flag when firing salutes in honour of His Excellency the Shaikh of Kuwait on receipt of a visit from him. I am to request that this procedure may ^{also} ~~xxx~~ be followed by Royal Indian Marine Ships in the Persian Gulf on similar occasions.

I am, etc.,

Ed. R.A. Daniel,

Assistant Secretary to the Government of India.

